

**THE OFFICE OF REGULATORY STAFF
DIRECT TESTIMONY
OF
DR. DOUGLAS H. CARLISLE
SEPTEMBER 30, 2013**



DOCKET NO. 2013-199-W/S

**Application of United Utility Companies,
Incorporated for Adjustment of Rates and
Charges and Modifications to Certain Terms
and Conditions for the Provision of Water and
Sewer Service**

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IN RE: APPLICATION OF UNITED UTILITY COMPANIES, INCORPORATED
FOR ADJUSTMENT OF RATES AND CHARGES AND MODIFICATIONS TO
CERTAIN TERMS AND CONDITIONS FOR THE PROVISION OF WATER AND
SEWER SERVICE

Q. WHAT IS THE PURPOSE OF YOUR TESTIMONY IN THIS PROCEEDING?

A. My purpose is to recommend the appropriate range for return on equity for United Utility Companies, Inc. (“United” or “the Company”). I will present my conclusions and their bases for the appropriate return on equity for United.

Q. WHAT STANDARDS GOVERN RATE OF RETURN?

The Supreme Court of the United States set standards in two landmark decisions. In the first case, involving a water company, the Court declared:

A public utility is entitled to such rates as will permit it to earn a return on the value of the property which it employs for the convenience of the public equal to that generally being made at the same time and in the same general part of the country on investments in other business undertakings which are attended by corresponding risks and uncertainties; but it has no constitutional right to profits such as are realized or anticipated in highly profitable enterprises or speculative ventures. The return should be reasonably sufficient to assure confidence in the financial soundness of the

1 utility and should be adequate, under efficient and economical
2 management, to maintain and support its credit and enable it to raise the
3 money necessary for the proper discharge of its duties.¹
4

5 This decision, the Bluefield decision was later reinforced by the decision in
6 another case, Federal Power Commission v. Hope Natural Gas Company:

7
8 [T]he fixing of “just and reasonable” rates, involves a balancing of the
9 investor and consumer interests.... From the investor or company point of
10 view it is important that there be enough revenue not only for operating
11 expenses but also for the capital cost of the business. These include
12 service on the debt and dividends on the stock..... By that standard the
13 return to the equity owner should be commensurate with returns on
14 investments in other enterprises having corresponding risks. That return,
15 moreover, should be sufficient to assure confidence in the financial
16 integrity of the enterprise, so as to maintain its credit and attract capital.²
17

18 **Q. DOES UNITED HAVE TRADED COMMON STOCK?**

19 A. No, its stock is entirely held by Utilities, Inc. of Northbrook, Illinois, which also
20 has no publicly traded stock. Utilities, Inc. was purchased by Corix Utilities in 2012.
21 Corix is owned by the British Columbia Investment Management Corporation.

22 **Q. IF NEITHER THE COMPANY NOR ITS PARENT HAS TRADED STOCK, HOW**
23 **DID YOU PERFORM YOUR ANALYSIS TO RECOMMEND A RETURN ON**
24 **EQUITY?**

25 A. To develop a fair rate of return recommendation for United, I evaluated the return
26 requirements of investors on the common stock of two groups of publicly held water and
27 sewerage service companies. I then applied to these two groups two well-known and
28 generally accepted methods for determining a recommended return on equity, the

¹ *Bluefield Water Works & Improvement Company. v. Public Service Commission of West Virginia*, 262 U.S. 679, 692-3 (1923).

² *Federal Power Commission v. Hope Natural Gas Company*, 320 U.S. 591, 603 (1944).

Discounted Cash Flow (“DCF”) Model, Comparable Earnings Model (“CEM”), and Capital Asset Pricing (“CAP-M”) Methods.

Q. WHY DID YOU EXAMINE DATA ON COMPANIES WITH TRADED STOCK?

A. First, United has asked to be treated as a publicly traded company by applying for a rate-based return-on-equity proceeding. Second, publicly traded water utilities are, after all, in the same line of business as United and so share similar risks. Third, data is far more readily available about publicly traded companies, so it is practical to use them.

Q. HOW DID YOU SELECT THESE COMPANIES AND GROUPS?

A. For my DCF analysis I selected those companies classified as “water utilities” by Value Line or by *Yahoo! Finance* that engage in water distribution to customers and obtain most of their revenues from utility services. For my CEM analysis I selected companies with comparable β 's to those of the companies in my DCF Proxy Group.

Q. WHAT CAPITAL STRUCTURE DID YOU USE FOR YOUR ANALYSIS OF UNITED?

A. I used the structure in Ms. Pauline Ahern's testimony at Exhibit PMA-1, Schedule 1, but not the cost rates. The Company's debt is higher than it would appear at first glance. The reason for this is Utilities, Inc.'s interest-only borrowing. Effectively, interest has been accumulating and will form a new basis to be repaid, so it acts like principle. I will discuss the ramifications of the interest-only loan later in my testimony.

Q. WHAT IS THE MOST IMPORTANT OVERALL CONSIDERATION IN DETERMINING AN APPROPRIATE RETURN ON EQUITY?

A. Determining comparability is the most important consideration. Under the Comparable Earnings Model, which I use, there is a set of assumptions about production

1 and capital inputs. Under all other models, there are various assumptions about risk and
2 these models all focus on adjusting risk to ascertain what companies are comparable to a
3 regulated utility. As a preliminary step, each of these risk-adjustment models identifies
4 some benchmark or standard reasoned to be central to investors' choices. For example,
5 under the DCF, the stream of benefits or cash-flow from dividends, is central. Under the
6 CAP-M, the Risk-Free Rate (" R_f ") takes center stage. I will discuss these methods in
7 more detail individually, later in my testimony.

8 **Q. WHAT IS THE ROLE THAT ASSESSING RISK PLAYS IN ESTIMATING A**
9 **FAIR RETURN FOR UNITED?**

10 A. For any regulated utility, one must determine the risks that the company faces in
11 order to estimate a fair return. An appropriate return reflects the return investors require
12 to incur the risk that they face. Economic principles dictate that the higher the risk, the
13 higher the expected return. So too, the lower the risk, the lower the required return. A
14 fair return, then, compensates investors proportionately to the risk they face. A fair
15 return balances investors' and customers' interests. Too high a return places a burden on
16 customers and over-rewards investors. Too low a return places too high a burden on the
17 utility.

18 **DCF Analysis**

19 **Q. WHAT IS THE BASIS FOR THE DCF MODEL?**

20 A. This model's basic premise is that investors value stocks based on the stream of
21 cash flows they can enjoy for the indefinite future and that the only certain flow of cash is
22 the value of dividends received. The DCF is a perpetuity, so cash must flow indefinitely;
23 therefore, in the long run, dividend growth cannot exceed company growth. If dividends

grew faster than the underlying company growth, the dividend would eventually become unsustainable and the model's basic assumptions would be violated. The growth in dividends, therefore, cannot exceed the growth in earnings. In fact, all indicators of growth must, in the long run, grow at rates compatible with each other. The DCF model is expressed by this formula:

$$K = D_1/P_0 + g;$$

where K = cost of equity capital (ROE); D_1 = current yearly Dividends per Share ("DPS"); P_0 = purchase price; and g = growth.

Q. HOW DO YOU TAKE INTO ACCOUNT THE ASSUMPTIONS ABOUT GROWTH IN YOUR ANALYSIS?

A. There are several steps for applying the assumptions of the DCF Model. Each strategy, in logical order, points to the next.

First, the DCF is a long-term model, so some temporary departures from a straight-line estimate of ROE are to be expected. This reasoning implies that having several indicators of growth is better than having just one. My analysis uses four indicators: 1) Earnings per Share ("EPS") (Exhibit DHC-2); 2) Book Value per Share ("BVPS") (Exhibit DHC-3); 3) Revenue or Earnings (Exhibit DHC-4); and, 4) Dividends per Share (Exhibit DHC-5).

Second, my analysis adheres to a steady-state model by using several periods to calculate historical trends and to dampen any temporary divergences. This method provides a more reliable guide to long-term growth. For that reason, I have used three- five- and ten-year averages/means and medians. This approach lessens the impact of any transient phenomena. Such reasoning appeals to common sense. For example, an

investor would need some convincing evidence to believe that a company whose earnings and book value having been growing at 5% would suddenly grow at 25%. On the other hand, true departures from the trend have to be recognized.

Third, my approach recognizes the importance of analysts' opinions. Although it might seem that analysts make their living discovering new trends or departures from old ones, their predictions also moderate analyses based strictly on historical data and add some balance to the estimation of growth. Investors know about analysts and may consult them and be influenced by estimates.

Q. HOW DOES YOUR DCF ANALYSIS CONFORM TO THE MODEL WITH REGARD TO THE OTHER TERMS OF THE BASIC DCF EQUATION?A.

The term, D_1/P_0 , finds a simple expression as Dividend Yield. A very narrow interpretation of the formula would insist upon using a price from the previous year and determining the yearly dividend paid as of a year later. Investors know about companies' history of dividend increases, however, and they expect increases if a company has a history of increasing dividends. Companies announce their intention to maintain or increase their dividends during the year and price data tends to be an average of prices over time (as in Exhibit DHC-9), so the current dividend yield reflects what has happened leading up to the current moment. Thus the problem with the dividend yield is not knowing what it is at a given moment, but rather that investors expect it to grow. Since investors know that any given company may announce an increase in its dividend in the upcoming twelve months after the dividend yield information is available, a simple convention to recognize such possible increases is to multiply the yield by half-again the growth rate, producing this modified equation:

1
$$K = ([D_1/P_0] * (1 + (1/2 g))) + g$$

2 While this equation may seem to violate the assumptions of the DCF by having
3 dividends outpace growth or by restricting dividends to a growth rate below companies'
4 growth rates, in fact it is consistent with the model. Expectations of growth are simply
5 applied to dividend yield in this equation. Dividend yield is brought into balance with
6 growth, because expectations are incorporated into both parts. The difference between
7 how expectations are incorporated is that, for growth, they are incorporated in the
8 development of the "g" number, whereas, in the dividend yield, they are incorporated in
9 the equation itself.

10 **Q. WHAT DOES YOUR DCF ANALYSIS INDICATE?**

11 A. My DCF analysis indicates that the appropriate ROE for the Company is 9.60%.
12 This number came partly from increased future dividends and dividend yields, partly
13 pushed by changes in capital gains but was also came from the steady rate of increase and
14 forecasted rates of increase in Sales, BVPS, and EPS (Exhibit DHC-6).

15 As discussed earlier, the effect of using multiple periods dampens the recent
16 three-year trend EPS, which would have produced excessively high ROE's, had it been
17 used alone. The long-term growth is slower than the short-term growth. The latter shows
18 a sudden jump, and the median result shows that the greatest jumps came from the larger
19 companies. The two largest companies, American States Water and American Water
20 Works, had the highest gains in EPS, followed by SJW Corporation and another large
21 company, Aqua America. All of these EPS results are shown at Exhibit DHC-2, p.2 of 3.

CEM Analysis

Q. WHAT THE BASIC PREMISE OF THE CEM?

A. This Model focuses on the costs of goods and services that generate earnings. For this reason, CEM analyses look at changes in book value. Changes in book value indicate a greater capacity to produce.

Q. WHAT ARE THE MAJOR CONSIDERATIONS IN IMPLEMENTING THE CEM AND HOW DID YOU ADDRESS THEM?

A. The Model does not indicate a single approach to ascertaining what is comparable and so analyses often look at great quantities of data over long periods of time. Analyses may use whole sectors of the economy, several sectors of the economy, or even stock indices and show several decades of results. While such approaches mitigate threats to the Model there is no single standard for comparability and so conclusions from the data tend to be judgmental. Although there is nothing wrong with applying judgment to interpret results, I have elected to use a more formulaic approach in order to make my analysis more transparent.

The standard I used to select comparable stocks was the range of β that Value Line provides for the companies in my DCF Proxy Group. Leaving aside academic arguments about its predictive value, β has intuitive appeal because stocks whose prices vary in the same manner as those of traded water and water and sewer companies probably have something in common with regard to their earning capacity. To further ensure comparability, I selected only stocks whose β 's for ten years did not stray very far out of the range of my DCF Proxy Group's. This approach produced a CEM Proxy

Group that was fairly large – having 137 companies – and that covered several market sectors (Exhibit DCH-13).

Q. HOW DID YOU APPLY YOUR RATIONALE AND PRECAUTIONS WITH REGARD TO THE CEM?

A. I determined the β 's of the utility companies stocks composing my DCF Proxy Group (Exhibit DHC-7). I then used Value Line's database to select companies whose β 's fell within this range and eliminated companies in the financial services sector. Removing financial companies was an application of judgment based on my conclusion that such companies would either lag the overall market or enjoy large rebounds due to the large role the financial sector played in the recession from which our country is still recovering. Either lagging or surpassing otherwise comparable companies would make the financial companies atypical and reduce comparability.

Having obtained a variety of companies with comparable β 's, I examined the ten-year β -ranges of the companies. Since the overall market has a β of "1," it is logical that the CEM Proxy Group should not contain any companies that were as risky as the overall market, so I eliminated any companies that had reached that level, which is .15 above the highest company in my DCF Proxy Group (Exhibit DHC-7). I placed a ten-year β -floor of less than .15 below the lowest company in my DCF Proxy Group. The selection procedures produced a CEM Proxy Group of 137 companies with many different lines of business among them.

Q. WHAT INFORMATION ABOUT THESE CEM PROXY GROUP COMPANIES DID YOU OBTAIN?

A. I obtained the ten-year book value growth for each company and the Value Line projected book value growth. I then calculated my CEM results from this group, using several different procedures.

Q. WHAT WERE THESE PROCEDURES AND WHY DID YOU TO USE SEVERAL PROCEDURES?

A. I first calculated the simple average or mean book value growth of the CEM Proxy Group, but I was aware that a few companies had rather extreme values. As a precaution against allowing a few companies to exert too much influence the calculation, I included the median of the values and then calculated the average of the mean and median growth in book value, for the historical ten-year period and for the predicted growth (Exhibit DHC-13).

As a defense against variation in book value growth among different levels of β , I divided the CEM Proxy Group into different β -ranges – stratifying the Group – by taking the mean and median of each range and then averaging the ranges. I averaged the stratified and unstratified results. To reflect the distribution of β 's within the DCF Proxy Group, I weighted the stratified results. I averaged this result with the previous result.

The average of the historical and projected book value results is a 10.174% growth in book value. The average of the stratified historical and projected book value results is 9.713%. These two results averaged together yield 9.943%. The average of the weighted stratified calculation was 9.262%. Averaging this number with 9.943% produces 9.603%, which is my CEM result (Exhibit DHC-13, p. 5 of 5). It should be

noted that stratification receives more emphasis using my procedure as a means of ensuring comparability with water companies with traded stock.

Q. IS THIS METHODOLOGY BASED MOSTLY ON STRESSING THE IMPORTANCE OF β ?

A. No. Although β plays a major role in the analysis, the CEM Proxy Group contains a very wide diversity of companies, from IBM to PetSmart, from Microsoft to Johnson & Johnson. The CEM is influenced by several sectors of business, each with its own characteristics apart from how its stocks co-vary with the market. Furthermore, this methodology stresses book value growth, as opposed to dividends or the hurdle- or risk-free-rate .

CAP-M Analysis

Q. WHAT IS THE BASIC PREMISE OF THE CAP-M?

A. This model assumes that there is a knowable R_f , Market Rate of Return (" R_m "), and Equity Risk Premium ("ERP"). In this respect, it belongs to a family of models and methods for which a risk premium is central. The CAP-M uses the β statistic to adjust the ERP for the risk of particular companies, sectors, or even portions of companies.

Q. HOW IS THE PREMISE REALIZED IN CAP-M ANALYSIS?

A. At the basic, general level, CAP-M uses the following formula:

$$K = R_f + (\beta * (R_m - R_f)),$$

Where K is ROE and the other notations are those I have discussed. The innermost parentheses contain the ERP, which is adjusted for risk by β , with the assumption that all risks not captured by β can be diversified away.

Q. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE ISSUES SURROUNDING THE CAP-M AND ITS APPLICATION?

A. There have been debates about whether β properly measures systematic risk, with some researchers finding that it does not and others finding that it does. Some people have taken issue with whether β should be adjusted, which is not an issue with my analysis, since I use Value Line's adjusted β 's. Another set of issues turns on whether the R_m is properly measured by the source, SBBI (a.k.a. "the Ibbotson book") or whether different periods of time should be used. Within that debate is another one on whether to use the arithmetic mean ("simple average") or the geometric mean (or "compound annual growth rate"). I use the latter because it reflects the long-term returns that stocks could actually have brought an investor.

Although those are the prominent debates, there is another issue concerning the third term of the CAP-M equation, R_f . Although one could argue about whether highly rated corporate bonds are truly risk-free or whether one should use longer- or shorter-term Treasury securities, such discussions are completely overshadowed by the question of whether actions by the Federal Reserve Board have masked or distorted market forces in such a way or in such a degree that the R_f has been unknowable.

Q. DO YOU BELIEVE THAT THE ISSUE WITH THE R_f IN THE CAP-M HAS BEEN OVERCOME?

A. While it may have been a concern when the Federal Reserve initiated its "Twist" policy of buying long-term Treasury securities, I believe that this concern is rapidly disappearing. My reasoning is twofold. First, there are clear signs that the Federal Reserve's policy is coming to an end, albeit a very gradual one, and there are definite

1 market responses anticipating the end of the policy. Second, it is possible that the policy
2 will end sooner for longer-term securities than for shorter-term ones. This second reason
3 is that the “Twist” policy came about later than the initial intervention and the market has
4 already anticipated an exit from it as demonstrated by the increasing steepness of the
5 yield curve (see Exhibit DHC-11). Since I consider the CAP-M to be more accurate
6 either when there is notable interaction between idiosyncratic risk and β^3 or in the
7 long-run⁴, recent reactions to the mere possibility of a slowing of Federal Reserve
8 purchases, sometimes called the “taper,” indicate that it is not too soon to use the CAP-M
9 again.

10 All professional economists who were polled by Blue Chip responded that they
11 thought the Taper would begin this year⁵. In other words, almost all of the economists
12 thought that Quantitative Easing – the Federal Reserve’s purchasing of \$85 billion per
13 month in Treasury and mortgage-backed securities – would begin to end this year. A
14 decrease in purchases of Treasury securities by the Federal Reserve will decrease their
15 price and increase their interest rates. With higher governmental rates, the hurdle that
16 corporate bonds will have to clear in order to attract investors will be higher, so it is
17 likely corporate bond rates will rise, too. For the CAP-M, the effect upon Treasury
18 securities is the more important and more direct effect of the termination of Federal
19 Reserve policy. Market forces will once again set the R_f , and we will have a good idea of
20 what the ERP is. In fact, the interest rates of Treasury bonds are already starting rise,
21 which indicates that the market is “pricing in” this upcoming change.

³ “Beta Is Still Useful!” a paper by Yexiao Xu and Yihua Zhao, School of Management, The University of Texas at Dallas, November 2011 revision.

⁴ Ravi Jagannathan and Ellen R. McGrattan, “The CAPM Debate,” Federal Reserve Bank of Minneapolis Quarterly Review, Vol. 19, No. 4, fall 1995, pp. 2-17.

⁵ Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, Vol. 32, No.8, August 1, 2013, p.14.

Q. HOW DID YOU PERFORM YOUR CAP-M?

A. For the R_f I used the projected 30-year Treasury bond yield, using a projection from a poll of economists conducted by Blue ChipTM. This consensus forecast looks 18 months into the future. It is currently 4.1% (Exhibit DHC-8). For the R_m , I used the compound average growth rate for stocks as published in Stocks, Bonds, Bills and Inflation, 2013. I averaged the returns for the deciles of company size and obtained an average (geometric mean or compound annual growth rate) of 11.1% (Exhibit DHC-8). The ERP is the difference of these two numbers, or 7.0%. The average β for the water companies in my DCF Proxy Group is 0.68. When one multiplies 7.0% by 0.68, the result is 4.76%, which is the risk-adjusted ERP. This step is necessary because not all equities are equally risky, so it is necessary to take into account how they vary with other equities, which is what β measures. The calculation shows that a company comparable to United should receive 4.76% above the R_f , which is 8.86% (Exhibit DHC-8).

Conclusion

Q. WHAT IS THE RANGE OF YOUR RESULTS?

A. The top of my range is 9.60%, my CEM and DCF results rounded to the second percentile decimal, and the bottom of my range is 8.86%, my CAP-M result.

Q. DO YOU HAVE A RECOMMENDATION WITHIN YOUR RANGE, BASED ON ANY SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS THAT YOU BELIEVE APPROPRIATE FOR EVALUATING YOUR RANGE?

A. I suggest that more weight be placed on the bottom end of the range. The parent company undertook an expensive form of debt at rates that were above the market at the time the debt was incurred and has shown no inclination to dilute that expensive rate.

1 Utilities, Inc. cannot escape the debt by paying off earlier without being required to make
2 the lenders whole immediately and it has chosen to make significant payments by having
3 an interest-only phase of the loan. Undoubtedly, some portion of what the Company's
4 customers pay in their bills goes to pay the excessive interest incurred by the parent
5 company. Since the risk posed by this high rate did not arise because of any actions of
6 United, United's customers should not have to pay for it. Accordingly, I recommend the
7 lower end of my range.

8 **Q. DOES THIS CONCLUDE YOUR TESTIMONY?**

9 **A.**Yes, it does.

Office of Regulatory Staff
Economic Overview
United Utility Companies, Inc.
Docket #2013-199-WS

A Review of Some Major Events of the Recession and Recovery

Over the past five-and-a-half years, the United States has experienced dramatic economic changes. The landmark for these changes was the March 2008 insolvency of Bear Stearns. The firm's hedge funds held subprime mortgages with large losses, leading to its sale to J. P. Morgan Chase. The trouble spread to major Wall Street firms that had loaned money on the basis of assets that turned out to be worth less than thought. Falling prices of houses and equities reduced the wealth of households and created uncertainty about the economy. The S&P 500 Index fell as much as 50% during 2008 and housing prices fell 13% in the twelve-month run-up to the recession. A large number of banks and other financial institutions had balance sheets that were suddenly deemed untrustworthy because they reflected holdings of securities whose underlying value was tied to houses purchased with nontraditional mortgages. The best known example of the sudden collapse in trust is the bankruptcy of Lehman Brothers on September 15, 2008, the largest bankruptcy filing in U.S. history, with Lehman holding over \$600 billion in assets.¹

When falling housing prices led to defaults and foreclosures, the value of corporate assets suffered. Moreover, some financial instruments, such as credit default swaps, greatly magnified the effects of declining value. Fannie Mae lost \$29 Billion on Write-Downs. The Federal Reserve announced that it planned to buy up \$600 billion in debt and mortgage-backed securities from Fannie

¹ "[Lehman folds with record \\$613 billion debt](http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/story.aspx?guid={2FE5AC05-597A-4E71-A2D5-9B9FCC290520}&siteid=rss)". Marketwatch. 2008-09-15.
<http://www.marketwatch.com/news/story/story.aspx?guid={2FE5AC05-597A-4E71-A2D5-9B9FCC290520}&siteid=rss>. Retrieved on 2008-09-15.

Mae, Freddie Mac and Ginnie Mae, the three government-sponsored finance firms established to promote home ownership.

As a result of steep drops in the value of assets and a dramatic drop in the willingness to lend, the Federal Reserve began a series of cuts in the Federal Funds Rate, the rate at which it lends banks money, starting with a half percent cut to 5.75% on August 16, 2007 and culminating in a drop on December 16, 2008 to a range between 0.0% and 0.25%. On November 10, 2008, the US Treasury announced investment of 40 billion dollars in preferred stock of AIG. In the First Quarter of 2009, the Federal Reserve purchased \$1.25 trillion in mortgage-backed securities and \$200 billion in agency debt.

On March 18, 2009, the Federal Reserve announced plans to purchase up to \$300 billion of longer-term Treasury securities. On June 24, 2009, it reiterated its plans to buy Treasury securities. Because the Federal Reserve had set rates near zero already, it could not cut them much. If there were deflation, real interest rates would rise, so its latest move circumvented the limitations of interest-rate policy by injecting liquidity directly into the monetary system through a variety of devices but especially through special credit facilities.²

The Federal Reserve's special programs were designed to ease credit in the face of illiquidity arising from the credit crisis that was both cause and result of the recession. Two measures of illiquidity, the "TED Spread" and the "OIS-LIBOR Spread" had widened dramatically (see Exhibits DHC-1a). The former is the difference between the Three-Month U.S. Treasury Bill rate and the London Interbank

² Most of the rest of the above discussion comes from these sources:

Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis: January 2009 "Man the Lifeboats!" By Kevin L. Kliesen; and,

"The Global Economic & Financial Crisis: A Timeline," Mauro F. Guillén Director of the Lauder Institute, Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania [no date; see:

http://lauder.wharton.upenn.edu/pages/pdf/class_info/Chronology_Economic_Financial_Crisis.pdf]

Offered Rate ("LIBOR").³ The latter is the difference between the Overnight Indexed Swap ("OIS") and LIBOR (see Exhibit DHC-1b). Both of these indicators shot up during the credit crisis, but returned to near-normal levels. As a result of the return to a more normal credit situation, the Federal Reserve let these special facilities lapse.⁴

As some measure of confidence returned among financial institutions, lingering distrust and the prospect of deflation led the Federal Reserve to begin its "Quantitative Easing" ("QE") policies in late 2008. Under these policies, the Federal Reserve sought to overcome the "Zero Bound" problem: the inability to lower interest rates below zero. By buying US Treasury securities, the QE policies effectively lowered interest rates below zero in order to avoid deflation, economic stagnation or decline, and to stimulate the economy. Part of this effort involved a shift into Treasury bonds away from shorter-term instruments, a policy partly begun in the second stage of QE. The policy, known as the "Twist," involved the Federal Reserve's getting out of shorter term Treasuries and into Longer-Term Treasuries in order to stimulate lending in capital projects. As there have been indications that the Federal Reserve is about to slow its purchases of Treasury securities, interest rates have increased. At the same time, additional financial pressure has been placed on companies by recent changes in tax law, which increases the capital gains tax on stock dividends and therefore the need for companies to increase their dividend yields. Nonetheless, as GDP continues to grow and unemployment declines very slowly, the very slowness of recovery from the recession five years ago should help companies with reliable growth.

Currently, the Federal Reserve remains on course, instructing the Federal Reserve Bank of New York to purchase \$85 billion per month, divided between mortgage-backed securities and longer-term Treasury securities. In July, the Federal Reserve's Open-Market Committee maintained a target inflation

³ It used to be the difference between the Euro-Dollar futures contract and the Three-Month U.S. Treasury Bill rate, thence the name "TED" ("Treasury/Eurodollar")

⁴ Federal Reserve Statement, January 2009:

<http://federalreserve.gov/newsevents/press/monetary/20090128a.htm>

rate of no more than 2% and the target unemployment rate of 6.5%.⁵ Leading up to this meeting there was some pulling back in stock values, tracked by the Federal Reserve itself:

Stock Market, Selected Statistics (1.36)⁶

Indicator	2010	2011	2012	Oct 2012	Nov 2012	Dec 2012	Jan 2013	Feb 2013	Mar 2013	Apr 2013	May 2013	Jun 2013
Prices and trading volume (averages of daily figures)												
<i>Common stock prices (indexes)</i>												
1 New York Stock Exchange (Dec. 31, 1965=50)	7,233.54	7,862.45	8,008.24	8,295.87	8,129.90	8,367.74	8,759.89	8,896.97	9,038.29	9,092.21	9,440.35	9,204.10
2 Standard & Poor's Corporation (1941-1943=10) ¹	1,139.97	1,267.64	1,379.35	1,437.82	1,394.51	1,422.28	1,480.40	1,512.31	1,550.83	1,570.70	1,639.84	1,618.77
3 American Stock Exchange (Aug. 31, 1973 = 50) ¹	1,939.79	2,285.19	2,377.55	2,430.56	2,370.38	2,374.90	2,399.22	2,392.41	2,401.79	2,377.81	2,421.10	2,311.15

⁵ Minutes of the Federal Open Market Committee, July 30-31, 2013. See: <http://www.federalreserve.gov/monetarypolicy/fomcminutes20130731.htm>

⁶ <http://www.federalreserve.gov/econresdata/releases/stockstats/current.htm>

Anxiety about “tapering,” led to reactions such as this one reported in Bloomberg/Business Week: “U.S. stocks fell, giving the Dow Jones Industrial Average its longest slump in 13 months, as minutes of the Federal Reserve’s July meeting showed officials support stimulus cuts this year if the economy improves.”⁷ The market is beginning to react and to place prices on the consequences of gradual Federal Reserve withdrawal from its current policies. While the Federal Reserve may not initiate the Taper on any set schedule, there is little doubt that the change is coming and investors in the stock market believe it is coming.

⁷ Bloomberg News, “U.S. Stocks Fall as Fed Minutes Show Support for Tapering,” by Lu Wang and Alex Barinka August 21, 2013. <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2013-08-21/u-dot-s-dot-stock-index-futures-decline-before-federal-reserve-minutes>

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
Earnings per Share -- Historical Data
Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES \ YEARS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*
American States Water	\$1.35	\$1.34	\$0.78	\$1.05	\$1.32	\$1.33	\$1.62	\$1.55	\$1.62	\$2.22	\$2.24	\$2.82
American Water Works								\$1.10	\$1.25	\$1.53	\$1.72	\$2.11
Aqua America	\$0.51	\$0.54	\$0.57	\$0.64	\$0.71	\$0.70	\$0.71	\$0.73	\$0.77	\$0.90	\$1.04	\$1.09
Artesian Resources		\$0.76	\$0.64	\$0.72	\$0.81	\$0.97	\$0.90	\$0.86	\$0.97	\$1.00	\$0.83	\$1.13
California Water	\$0.47	\$0.63	\$0.61	\$0.73	\$0.74	\$0.67	\$0.75	\$0.95	\$0.98	\$0.91	\$0.86	\$1.02
Connecticut Water Service	\$1.13	\$1.12	\$1.15	\$1.16	\$0.88	\$0.81	\$1.05	\$1.11	\$1.19	\$1.13	\$1.13	\$1.53
Middlesex Water	\$0.66	\$0.73	\$0.61	\$0.73	\$0.71	\$0.82	\$0.87	\$0.89	\$0.72	\$0.96	\$0.84	\$0.90
SJW Corp.	\$0.77	\$0.78	\$0.91	\$0.87	\$1.12	\$1.19	\$1.04	\$1.08	\$0.81	\$0.84	\$1.11	\$1.18
York Water Co.	\$0.43	\$0.40	\$0.47	\$0.49	\$0.56	\$0.58	\$0.57	\$0.57	\$0.64	\$0.71	\$0.71	\$0.72

Source: Value Line, Exhibit DHC-9

COMPANIES \ YEARS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
American States Water	1.05	0.99	0.58	1.35	1.26	1.01	1.22	0.96	1.05	1.37	1.01	1.26
American Water Works									1.14	1.22	1.12	1.23
Aqua America	1.09	1.06	1.06	1.12	1.11	0.99	1.01	1.03	1.05	1.17	1.16	1.05
Artesian Resources			0.84	1.13	1.13	1.20	0.93	0.96	1.13	1.03	0.83	1.36
California Water	0.69	1.34	0.97	1.20	1.01	0.91	1.12	1.27	1.03	0.93	0.95	1.19
Connecticut Water Service	1.04	0.99	1.03	1.01	0.76	0.92	1.30	1.06	1.07	0.95	1.00	1.35
Middlesex Water	1.29	1.11	0.84	1.20	0.97	1.15	1.06	1.02	0.81	1.33	0.88	1.07
SJW Corp.	1.33	1.01	1.17	0.96	1.29	1.06	0.87	1.04	0.75	1.04	1.32	1.06
York Water Co.		0.92	1.18	1.04	1.14	1.04	0.98	1.00	1.12	1.11	1.00	1.01

Office of Regulatory Staff

United Utility Companies, Inc.

Earnings per Share -- Historical Summary

Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES	10-yr Averages		5-yr. Averages		3-Yr. Averages	
	Compound	Simple	Compound	Simple	Compound	Simple
American States Water	7.72%	10.51%	11.72%	12.81%	20.29%	21.28%
American Water Works					19.07%	19.16%
Aqua America	7.28%	7.43%	8.95%	9.11%	12.28%	12.42%
Artesian Resources	4.05%	5.23%	4.66%	6.12%	5.22%	7.41%
California Water	4.94%	5.61%	6.34%	7.16%	1.34%	1.99%
Connecticut Water Service	3.17%	4.44%	7.82%	8.66%	8.74%	10.12%
Middlesex Water	2.12%	3.33%	0.68%	2.23%	7.72%	9.33%
SJW Corp.	4.23%	5.57%	2.56%	4.20%	13.36%	14.05%
York Water Co.	6.05%	6.25%	4.78%	4.93%	4.00%	4.12%
Means	4.94%	6.05%	5.94%	6.90%	10.23%	11.10%
Medians	4.58%	5.59%	5.56%	6.64%	8.74%	10.12%
Average of Mean & Median		5.29%		6.26%	10.04%	10.04%
						Average of Period Averages
						7.20%

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
Earnings per Share -- Estimates & Overall Summary
Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES	Value Line**		Zacks*	Yahoo*	Reuters
	\$'s	%'s			
American States Water	3.25	3.61%	2.00%	2.00%	2.00%
American Water Works	2.85	7.81%	7.74%	8.05%	9.04%
Aqua America	1.60	10.07%	5.27%	4.90%	6.27%
Artesian Resources	1.24	4.75%	14.95% ‡	4.00%	19.42%
California Water	1.35	7.26%	6.00%	6.00%	12.94%
Connecticut Water Service	1.75	3.42%	5.00%	5.00%	5.00%
Middlesex Water	1.15	6.32%	2.04% ‡	2.70%	6.06%
SJW Corp.	1.60	7.91%	7.58% *	14.00%	3.73%
York Water Co.	0.90	5.74%	10.39% *	4.90%	4.85%
		6.32%	6.77%	5.73%	7.70%
		6.32%	6.00%	4.90%	6.06%
		<u>6.32%</u>	<u>6.39%</u>	<u>5.31%</u>	<u>6.88%</u>

*Value Line, see Exhibit DHC-9; % =Compound Annual Growth Rate

† "Yahoo"=Yahoo!Finance web site

‡ "Zacks"=Zacks web site

‡ Estimated growth for this year over next

Office of Regulatory Staff

United Utility Companies, Inc.

BVPS -- Historical Data

Docket #2013-199-WS

	\$ per share											
COMPANIES \ YEARS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
American States Water	\$13.22	\$14.05	\$13.97	\$15.01	\$15.72	\$16.64	\$17.53	\$17.95	\$19.39	\$20.26	\$21.68	\$23.61
American Water Works								\$25.64	\$22.91	\$23.59	\$24.11	\$25.10
Aqua America	\$4.15	\$4.36	\$5.34	\$5.89	\$6.30	\$6.96	\$7.32	\$7.82	\$8.12	\$8.51	\$9.01	\$9.87
Artesian Resources		\$9.65	\$9.01	\$9.26	\$9.60	\$10.15	\$11.66	\$11.86	\$12.15	\$12.44	\$13.12	\$13.57
California Water	\$6.48	\$6.56	\$7.22	\$7.83	\$7.90	\$9.07	\$9.25	\$9.72	\$10.13	\$10.45	\$10.76	\$11.30
Connecticut Water Service	\$9.25	\$10.06	\$10.46	\$10.94	\$11.52	\$11.60	\$11.95	\$12.23	\$12.67	\$13.05	\$13.50	\$16.89
Middlesex Water	\$7.11	\$7.39	\$7.60	\$8.02	\$8.26	\$9.52	\$10.05	\$10.03	\$10.33	\$11.13	\$11.27	\$11.48
SJW Corp.	\$8.17	\$8.40	\$9.11	\$10.11	\$10.72	\$12.48	\$12.90	\$13.99	\$13.66	\$13.75	\$14.20	\$14.68
York Water Co.	\$3.79	\$3.90	\$4.06	\$4.65	\$4.85	\$5.84	\$5.97	\$6.14	\$6.92	\$7.19	\$7.45	\$7.73

Source: Value Line, Exhibit DHC-8

Ratios of Change over Previous Year

COMPANIES \ YEARS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
American States Water	1.04	1.06	0.99	1.07	1.05	1.06	1.05	1.02	1.08	1.04	1.07	1.09
American Water Works									0.89	1.03	1.02	1.04
Aqua America	1.08	1.05	1.22	1.10	1.07	1.10	1.05	1.07	1.04	1.05	1.06	1.10
Artesian Resources			0.93	1.03	1.04	1.06	1.15	1.02	1.02	1.02	1.05	1.03
California Water	1.00	1.01	1.10	1.08	1.01	1.15	1.02	1.05	1.04	1.03	1.03	1.05
Connecticut Water Service	1.04	1.09	1.04	1.05	1.05	1.01	1.03	1.02	1.04	1.03	1.03	1.25
Middlesex Water	1.02	1.04	1.03	1.06	1.03	1.15	1.06	1.00	1.03	1.08	1.01	1.02
SJW Corp.	1.03	1.03	1.08	1.11	1.06	1.16	1.03	1.08	0.98	1.01	1.03	1.03
York Water Co.		1.03	1.04	1.15	1.04	1.20	1.02	1.03	1.13	1.04	1.04	1.04

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
Book Value per Share -- Historical Summary, Estimates & Overall Summary
Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES	10-yr Averages		5-yr. Averages		3-Yr. Averages	
	Compound	Simple	Compound	Simple	Compound	Simple
American States Water	5.33%	5.36%	6.14%	6.16%	6.78%	6.80%
American Water Works					3.09%	3.09%
Aqua America	8.51%	8.63%	6.16%	6.18%	6.72%	6.74%
Artesian Resources	3.46%	3.58%	3.08%	3.09%	3.77%	3.78%
California Water	5.59%	5.66%	4.08%	4.09%	3.71%	3.71%
Connecticut Water Service	5.32%	5.51%	7.16%	7.50%	10.06%	10.52%
Middlesex Water	4.50%	4.58%	2.70%	2.73%	3.58%	3.62%
SJW Corp.	5.74%	5.86%	2.62%	2.68%	2.43%	2.44%
York Water Co.	7.08%	7.24%	5.30%	5.37%	3.76%	3.76%
Means	5.69%	5.80%	4.66%	4.72%	4.88%	4.94%
Medians	5.46%	5.59%	4.69%	4.73%	3.76%	3.76%
Average of Mean & Median		5.64%		4.70%		4.33%
						Average of Period Averages 4.89%

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
BVPS -- Estimates & Summary
Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES	Value Line**	
	\$'s	%'s
American States Water	\$24.25	0.67%
American Water Works	\$30.00	4.56%
Aqua America	\$13.30	7.74%
Artesian Resources		
California Water	\$15.00	7.34%
Connecticut Water Service	\$20.40	4.83%
Middlesex Water	\$12.90	2.96%
SJW Corp.	\$19.15	6.87%
York Water Co.	\$8.60	2.70%
		4.71%
		<u>4.71%</u>
		<u>4.71%</u>

*Source: Exhibit DHC-9

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
Sales/Revenues -- Historical Data
Docket #2013-199-WS

\$-000,000's											
COMPANIES \ YEARS	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012*
American States Water	\$209.20	\$212.70	\$228.00	\$236.20	\$268.60	\$301.40	\$318.70	\$361.00	\$398.90	\$419.30	\$466.90
American Water Works							\$2,336.90	\$2,440.70	\$2,710.70	\$2,666.20	\$2,876.90
Aqua America	\$322.00	\$367.20	\$442.00	\$496.80	\$533.50	\$602.50	\$627.00	\$670.50	\$726.10	\$712.00	\$757.80
Artesian Resources	\$34.60	\$36.30	\$39.60	\$45.30	\$47.30	\$52.50	\$56.20	\$60.90	\$64.90	\$65.10	\$70.60
California Water	\$263.20	\$277.10	\$315.60	\$320.70	\$334.70	\$367.10	\$410.30	\$449.40	\$460.40	\$501.80	\$560.00
Connecticut Water Service	\$45.80	\$47.10	\$48.50	\$47.50	\$46.90	\$59.00	\$61.30	\$59.40	\$66.40	\$69.40	\$83.80
Middlesex Water	\$61.90	\$64.10	\$71.00	\$74.60	\$81.10	\$86.10	\$91.00	\$91.20	\$102.70	\$102.10	\$110.40
SJW Corp.	\$145.70	\$149.70	\$166.90	\$180.10	\$189.20	\$206.60	\$220.30	\$216.10	\$215.60	\$239.00	\$261.60
York Water Co.	\$19.60	\$20.90	\$22.50	\$26.80	\$28.70	\$31.40	\$32.80	\$37.00	\$39.00	\$40.60	\$41.40

Ratios of Change over Previous Year

COMPANIES \ YEARS	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
American States Water	1.06	1.02	1.07	1.04	1.14	1.12	1.06	1.13	1.10	1.05	1.11
American Water Works								1.04	1.11	0.98	1.08
Aqua America	1.05	1.14	1.20	1.12	1.07	1.13	1.04	1.07	1.08	0.98	1.06
Artesian Resources	1.08	1.05	1.09	1.14	1.04	1.11	1.07	1.08	1.07	1.00	1.08
California Water	1.07	1.05	1.14	1.02	1.04	1.10	1.12	1.10	1.02	1.09	1.12
Connecticut Water Service	1.01	1.03	1.03	0.98	0.99	1.26	1.04	0.97	1.12	1.05	1.21
Middlesex Water	1.04	1.04	1.11	1.05	1.09	1.06	1.06	1.00	1.13	0.99	1.08
SJW Corp.	1.07	1.03	1.11	1.08	1.05	1.09	1.07	0.98	1.00	1.11	1.09
York Water Co.	1.01	1.07	1.08	1.19	1.07	1.09	1.04	1.13	1.05	1.04	1.02

Source: Value Line, Exhibit DHC-9

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
Sales/Revenues -- Historical Summary
Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES	10-yr Averages		5-yr. Averages		3-Yr. Averages	
	Compound	Simple	Compound	Simple	Compound	Simple
American States Water	8.36%	8.44%	9.15%	9.20%	8.95%	8.99%
American Water Works					5.63%	5.77%
Aqua America	8.94%	9.09%	4.69%	4.76%	4.16%	4.26%
Artesian Resources	7.39%	7.45%	6.10%	6.15%	5.05%	5.11%
California Water	7.84%	7.92%	8.81%	8.87%	7.61%	7.68%
Connecticut Water Service	6.23%	6.61%	7.27%	7.57%	12.16%	12.35%
Middlesex Water	5.96%	6.03%	5.10%	5.21%	6.58%	6.72%
SJW Corp.	6.03%	6.12%	4.83%	4.96%	6.58%	6.69%
York Water Co.	7.76%	7.86%	5.69%	5.75%	3.82%	3.83%
Means	7.31%	7.44%	6.46%	6.56%	6.73%	6.82%
Medians	7.58%	7.66%	5.89%	5.95%	6.58%	6.69%
Average of Mean & Median		7.50%		6.21%		6.70%
					Period Averages	
					6.81%	

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
Sales/Revenues -- Estimates & Overall Summary
Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES	Value Line®		Yahoo	Zacks
	S's	%'s		
American States Water	550	4.18%	0.70%	9.58%
American Water Works	3800	7.20%	4.60%	5.12%
Aqua America	915	4.83%	4.20%	5.03%
Artesian Resources			5.00%	5.42%
California Water	800	9.33%	6.90%	7.37%
Connecticut Water Service	135	12.66%	4.90%	11.43%
Middlesex Water	155	8.85%	6.80%	5.26%
SJW Corp.	375	9.42%	3.20%	4.91%
York Water Co.	50	4.83%	7.20%	5.93%
		7.66%	4.83%	6.67%
		8.03%	4.90%	5.42%
		<u>7.85%</u>	<u>4.87%</u>	<u>6.05%</u>

*numbers in the left column are actual predictions
† "Yahoo" = Yahoo! Finance web site; 1-year estimates

Office of Regulatory Staff

United Utility Companies, Inc.

DPS -- Historical Data

Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES \ YEARS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
American States Water	\$0.87	\$0.87	\$0.88	\$0.89	\$0.90	\$0.91	\$0.96	\$1.00	\$1.01	\$1.04	\$1.10	\$1.27
American Water Works								\$0.80	\$0.82	\$0.86	\$0.91	\$0.96
Aqua America	\$0.30	\$0.32	\$0.35	\$0.37	\$0.40	\$0.44	\$0.48	\$0.51	\$0.55	\$0.59	\$0.63	\$0.67
Artesian Resources	\$0.49	\$0.52	\$0.53	\$0.55	\$0.58	\$0.61	\$0.66	\$0.71	\$0.72	\$0.75	\$0.76	\$0.79
California Water	\$0.56	\$0.56	\$0.56	\$0.57	\$0.57	\$0.58	\$0.58	\$0.59	\$0.59	\$0.60	\$0.62	\$0.63
Connecticut Water Service	\$0.80	\$0.81	\$0.83	\$0.84	\$0.85	\$0.86	\$0.87	\$0.88	\$0.90	\$0.92	\$0.94	\$0.96
Middlesex Water	\$0.62	\$0.63	\$0.65	\$0.66	\$0.67	\$0.68	\$0.69	\$0.70	\$0.71	\$0.72	\$0.73	\$0.74
SJW Corp.	\$0.43	\$0.46	\$0.49	\$0.51	\$0.53	\$0.57	\$0.61	\$0.65	\$0.66	\$0.68	\$0.69	\$0.71
York Water Co.	\$0.34	\$0.35	\$0.37	\$0.39	\$0.42	\$0.45	\$0.48	\$0.49	\$0.51	\$0.52	\$0.53	\$0.54

Note: American Water Works began paying dividends in mid-2008, after it became publicly traded; these are pro-rated to a full year.

Ratios of Change over Previous Year

COMPANIES \ YEARS	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
American States Water		1.00	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.05	1.04	1.01	1.03	1.06	1.15
American Water Works									1.03	1.05	1.06	1.05
Aqua America		1.07	1.09	1.06	1.08	1.10	1.09	1.06	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.06
Artesian Resources		1.05	1.03	1.04	1.05	1.05	1.08	1.08	1.01	1.04	1.01	1.04
California Water		1.00	1.00	1.02	1.00	1.02	1.00	1.02	1.00	1.02	1.03	1.02
Connecticut Water Service		1.01	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.02	1.02	1.02	
Middlesex Water		1.02	1.03	1.02	1.02	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01	1.01
SJW Corp.		1.07	1.07	1.04	1.04	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.02	1.03	1.01	1.03
York Water Co.		1.03	1.06	1.05	1.08	1.07	1.07	1.02	1.04	1.02	1.02	

DPS -- Historical Data Summary

Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES	10-yr Averages		5-yr. Averages		3-Yr. Averages	
	Compound	Simple	Compound	Simple	Compound	Simple
American States Water	3.86%	3.94%	5.76%	5.87%	7.93%	8.06%
American Water Works						
Aqua America	7.67%	7.68%	6.90%	6.90%	5.39%	5.40%
Artesian Resources	4.38%	4.40%	3.71%	3.74%	6.80%	6.80%
California Water	1.18%	1.19%	1.67%	1.67%	3.23%	3.24%
Connecticut Water Service	1.67%	1.67%	1.95%	1.95%	2.21%	2.21%
Middlesex Water	1.62%	1.62%	1.41%	1.41%	2.20%	2.20%
SJW Corp.	4.44%	4.46%	3.08%	3.10%	1.39%	1.39%
York Water Co.	4.72%	4.74%	2.51%	2.51%	2.46%	2.47%
					1.94%	1.94%
Means	3.69%	3.71%	3.37%	3.39%	3.73%	3.75%
Medians	4.12%	4.17%	2.80%	2.81%	2.46%	2.47%
Average of Mean & Median		3.92%		3.09%		3.10%

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
DPS -- Estimates & Summary
Docket #2013-199-WS

COMPANIES	DPS Projection**	Compound %
American States Water	1.80	9.11%
American Water Works	1.40	9.89%
Aqua America	1.00	10.53%
Artesian Resources		
California Water	0.90	9.33%
Connecticut Water Service	1.14	4.34%
Middlesex Water	0.80	1.97%
SJW Corp.	0.90	6.11%
York Water Co.	0.65	4.99%
	Mean	7.03%
	Median	7.61%
	Average of Mean & Median	7.32%

Average of Historical & Projected DPS Growth **5.35%**

*Source: Exhibit DHC-9

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
DCF Summary
Docket #2013-199-WS

<u>Indicator</u>	<u>Historical</u>	<u>Projected</u>	<u>Average</u>	<u>Source</u>
EPS	7.20%	6.23%	6.71%	Exhibit DHC-2
BVPS	4.89%	4.71%	4.80%	Exhibit DHC-3
Sales/Rev.	6.81%	6.25%	6.53%	Exhibit DHC-4
DPS	3.37%	7.32%	5.35%	Exhibit DHC-5
			5.85%	Calculated average/mean
			3.55%	Exhibits DHC-1, p.3 of 5, DHC-7, DHC-9
			0.21%	Calculated, multiplication of above two lines
			<u>9.60%</u>	DCF Recommendation

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
DCF Proxy Group Characteristics
Docket #2013-199-WS

<u>Company</u>	<u>Dividend</u> <u>Yield¹</u>	<u>Market</u> <u>Cap'n²</u>	<u>β</u>	<u>Bond</u> <u>Rating</u>
American States Water	2.80%	\$775	0.70	A+
American Water Works	2.90%	\$6,200	0.65	A-
Aqua America	2.60%	\$3,600	0.60	A+ ³
Artesian Resources	3.70%	\$245	0.60	n/a
California Water	3.40%	\$775	0.65	A+
Connecticut Water Service	3.20%	\$355	0.75	A
Middlesex Water	3.90%	\$300	0.70	A-
SJW Corp.	3.00%	\$450	0.85	A ³
York Water Co.	<u>3.00%</u>	\$181	<u>0.65</u>	A-
	<u>3.17%</u>		<u>0.68</u>	

Sources:

All columns except Credit Rating: Exhibit DHC-9
Bond Rating column from S&P online

Footnotes:

¹ Average Water Company Dividend Yield before reduction in capital gains = (3.5%+3.6%)/2; see Exhibit DHC-9, p. 10 of 10

² "Cap'n" = "Capitalization"; numbers are in \$1,000,000's

³ Ratings of Aqua Pennsylvania & San Jose Water Companies, respectively

Office of Regulatory Staff
United Utility Companies, Inc.
CAP-M Calculation
Docket #2013-199-WS

<u>Deciles of Company</u> <u>Size</u>	<u>Compound Annual</u> <u>Growth Rate (%)</u>	<u>Quarter in Blue</u> <u>Chip Forecast</u>	<u>30-Yr. Treasury</u> <u>Bond Rate</u>
Largest: 1	9.1		
2	10.4	2Q 2013	3.15
3	10.8	3Q 2013	3.60
4	10.8	4Q 2013	3.70
5	11.3	1Q 2014	3.80
6	11.3	2Q 2014	3.90
7	11.3	3Q 2014	4.00
8	11.5	4Q 2014	4.10
9	11.5		
Smallest: 10	13.0		
Average	11.1		

$$K = R_f + ((R_m - R_f) * \beta)$$

$$K = 4.1 + ((11.1 - 4.1) * .68)$$

$$K = 8.86$$

Sources:

Long-Term stock returns Stocks, Bonds, Bills & Inflation, 2013 Yearbook, p.96
30-Year Treasury Bond projected interest rate: Blue Chip Financial Forecasts, August 1, 2013, p.2
 β is from Exhibit DHC-7

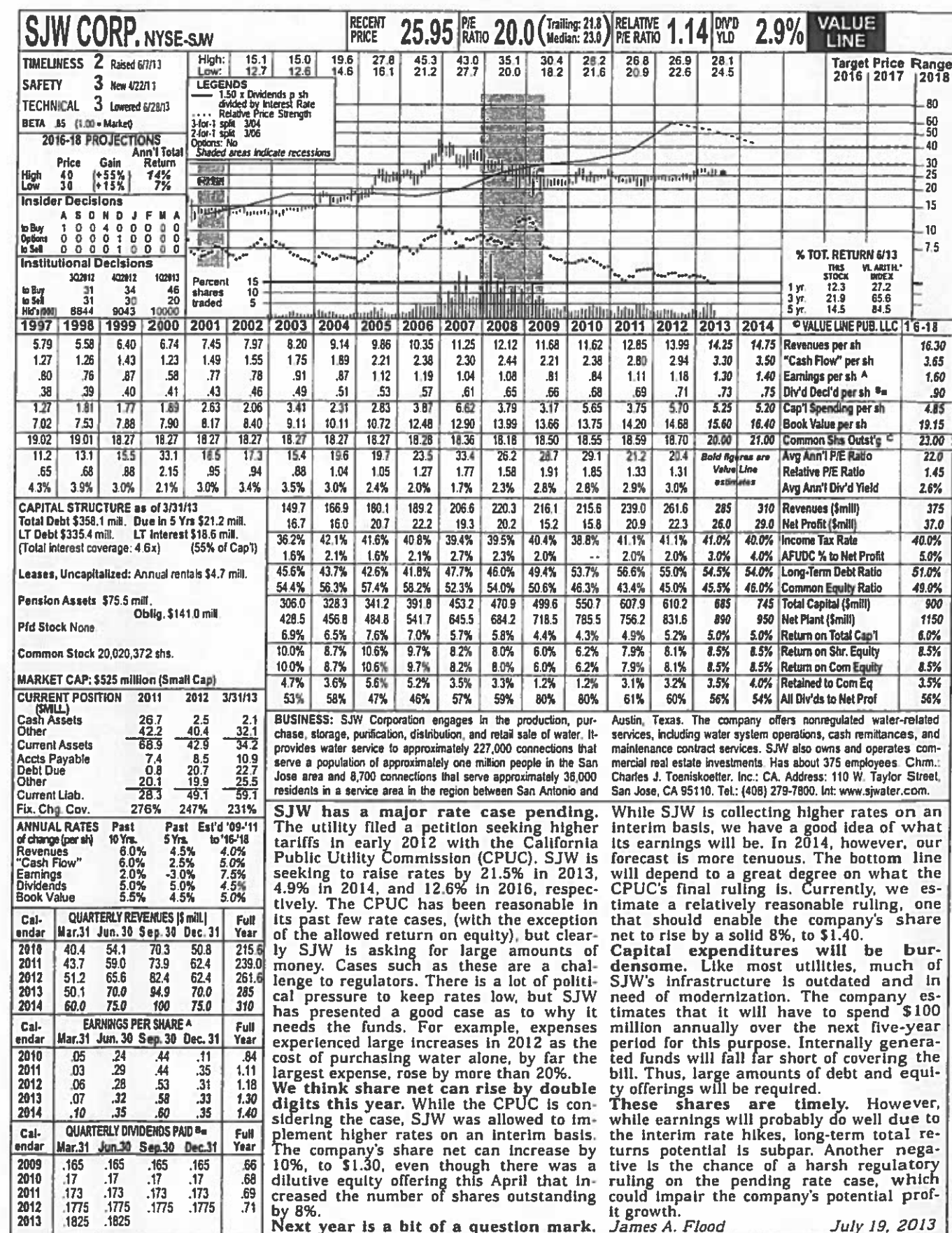
ARTESIAN RES. CORP. NDQ-ARTNA				RECENT PRICE	22.30	TRAILING P/E RATIO	21.4	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	1.13	DIV'D YLD	3.7%	VALUE LINE						
RANKS				22.62	22.33	20.67	19.31	18.73	19.59	19.99	24.43	23.75	High					
				17.20	17.90	18.26	13.00	12.81	16.43	15.16	18.20	21.52	Low					
PERFORMANCE	3	Average																
Technical	3	Average																
SAFETY	2	Above Average																
BETA	.60	(1.00 = Market)																
Financial Strength	8																	
Price Stability	100																	
Price Growth Persistence	40																	
Earnings Predictability	85																	
O VALUE LINE PUBLISHING LLC				2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014/2015					
SALES PER SH				7.52	7.77	7.20	7.59	8.11	8.48	7.56	8.10	-	-	-				
"CASH FLOW" PER SH				1.56	1.75	1.57	1.65	1.84	1.92	1.64	2.04	-	-	-				
EARNINGS PER SH				.81	.97	.90	.86	.97	1.00	.83	1.13	1.07 ^{A,B}	1.24 ^C /NA					
DIV'DS DECL'D PER SH				.58	.61	.66	.71	.72	.75	.76	.79	-	-	-				
CAP'L SPENDING PER SH				3.35	5.08	3.66	6.09	2.32	2.57	1.83	2.36	-	-	-				
BOOK VALUE PER SH				9.60	10.15	11.66	11.86	12.15	12.44	13.12	13.57	-	-	-				
COMMON SHS OUTST'G (MILL)				6.02	6.09	7.30	7.40	7.51	7.65	8.61	8.71	-	-	-				
AVG ANN'L P/E RATIO				24.2	20.3	21.5	20.1	16.4	18.2	22.5	18.3	20.8	18.0/NA					
RELATIVE P/E RATIO				1.28	1.10	1.14	1.21	1.09	1.16	1.41	1.17	-	-	-				
AVG ANN'L DIV'D YIELD				2.9%	3.1%	3.4%	4.1%	4.5%	4.1%	4.1%	3.8%	-	-	-				
SALES (\$MILL)				45.3	47.3	52.5	56.2	60.9	64.9	65.1	70.6	-	-	-				
OPERATING MARGIN				100.0%	45.6%	45.6%	45.1%	46.9%	46.5%	45.5%	48.7%	-	-	-				
DEPRECIATION (\$MILL)				4.4	4.6	5.2	5.8	6.6	7.0	7.4	7.9	-	-	-				
NET PROFIT (\$MILL)				5.0	6.1	6.3	6.4	7.3	7.6	8.7	9.8	-	-	-				
INCOME TAX RATE				39.9%	39.0%	39.8%	40.8%	40.1%	40.0%	40.8%	40.2%	-	-	-				
NET PROFIT MARGIN				11.1%	12.8%	11.9%	11.4%	11.9%	11.7%	10.4%	14.0%	-	-	-				
WORKING CAP'L (\$MILL)				d18	d8.8	2.5	d20.9	d23.3	d27.9	d11.4	d11.4	-	-	-				
LONG-TERM DEBT (\$MILL)				92.4	92.1	91.8	107.6	106.0	105.1	106.5	106.3	-	-	-				
SHR. EQUITY (\$MILL)				57.8	61.8	85.1	87.8	91.2	95.1	113.0	118.2	-	-	-				
RETURN ON TOTAL CAP'L				5.3%	5.8%	5.3%	4.7%	5.2%	5.6%	4.6%	5.9%	-	-	-				
RETURN ON SHR. EQUITY				8.7%	9.8%	7.4%	7.3%	8.0%	8.0%	6.0%	8.3%	-	-	-				
RETAINED TO COM EQ				2.7%	3.8%	2.1%	1.4%	2.1%	2.0%	.5%	2.5%	-	-	-				
ALL DIV'DS TO NET PROF				69%	61%	71%	81%	74%	75%	92%	70%	-	-	-				
A No. of analysts changing earn. est. in last 5 days: 0 up, 0 down, consensus 5-year earnings growth not available. B Based upon 4 analysts' estimates. C Based upon 4 analysts' estimates.																		
ANNUAL RATES				ASSETS (\$mill.)				INDUSTRY: Water Utility				<p>BUSINESS: Artesian Resources Corporation, through its subsidiaries, provides water, wastewater, and other services on the Delmarva Peninsula. It distributes and sells water to residential, commercial, industrial, municipal, and utility customers in the states of Delaware, Maryland, and Pennsylvania. The company also offers water for public and private fire protection to customers in its service territories. In addition, it provides contract water and wastewater services, water and sewer service line protection plans, and wastewater management services, as well as design, construction, and engineering services. As of December 31, 2012, the company served approximately 79,000 metered water customers through 1,162 miles of transmission and distribution mains. Has 229 employees. Chairman, C.E.O. & President: Dian C. Taylor. Address: 664 Churchmans Rd., Newark, DE 19702. Tel.: (302) 453-6900. Internet: http://www.artesianwater.com.</p> <p>J.V.</p> <p>July 19, 2013</p>						
of change (per share)				2011				2012							3/31/13			
5 Yrs.				2011				2012							3/31/13			
1 Yr.				2011				2012							3/31/13			
				2011				2012							3/31/13			
Sales				Cash Assets				Cash Assets				Cash Assets						
1.5%				Receivables				Receivables				Receivables						
7.0%				Inventory				Inventory				Inventory						
3.0%				Other				Other				Other						
24.0%				Current Assets				Current Assets				Current Assets						
2.0%				3/31/13				3/31/13				3/31/13						
36.0%				3/31/13				3/31/13				3/31/13						
4.5%				3/31/13				3/31/13				3/31/13						
4.0%				3/31/13				3/31/13				3/31/13						
4.5%				3/31/13				3/31/13				3/31/13						
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				3/31/13														

YORK WATER NDQ:YORW				RECENT PRICE	P/E RATIO	(Trailing: 26.7) Median: 25.0	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	DIV'D YLD	2.8%	VALUE LINE																				
TIMELINESS	4	New 7/19/13	High: 13.4	13.5	14.0	17.9	21.0	18.5	18.5	18.0	18.1	18.5	19.8	17.6	Target Price	2016	2017	2018												
SAFETY	2	New 7/19/13	Low: 8.2	9.3	11.0	11.7	15.3	15.5	6.2	9.7	12.8	15.8	16.8	17.6																
TECHNICAL	3	New 7/19/13	LEGENDS 1.10 = Dividends p sh divided by Interest Rate Relative Price Strength 2-for-1 split 5/02 3-for-2 split 9/06 Options: No Shaded areas indicate recessions																											
BETA	70	(1.00 = Market)																												
2016-18 PROJECTIONS				Price	Gain	Ann'l Total																								
High	25	(+25%)	8%																											
Low	17	(-15%)	N/A																											
Insider Decisions				A	S	O	N	D	J	F	M	A																		
to Buy	0	2	4	0	0	4	0	0	4	0	0	4																		
Options	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0																		
to Sell	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1																		
Institutional Decisions				3Q2012	4Q2012	1Q2013																								
to Buy	27	26	33																											
to Sell	28	27	21																											
Holdings	3279	3178	3375																											
				Percent shares traded	12	8	4																							
1997	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	VALUE LINE PUB. LLC	16-18											
--	--	--	--	2.05	2.05	2.17	2.18	2.58	2.56	2.79	2.89	2.95	3.07	3.18	3.21	3.40	3.50	Revenues per sh	3.55											
--	--	--	--	.59	.57	.65	.65	.79	.77	.86	.88	.95	1.07	1.09	1.12	1.20	1.30	"Cash Flow" per sh	1.40											
--	--	--	--	.43	.40	.47	.49	.56	.58	.57	.57	.64	.71	.71	.72	.78	.85	Earnings per sh ^A	.90											
--	--	--	--	.34	.35	.37	.39	.42	.45	.48	.49	.51	.52	.53	.54	.55	.57	Div'd Decl'd per sh ^B	.65											
--	--	--	--	.75	.66	1.07	2.50	1.69	1.85	1.69	2.17	1.18	.83	.74	.94	.90	.80	Cap'l Spending per sh	.90											
--	--	--	--	3.79	3.90	4.06	4.65	4.85	5.84	5.97	6.14	6.92	7.19	7.45	7.73	8.05	8.35	Book Value per sh	8.60											
--	--	--	--	9.46	9.55	9.63	10.33	10.40	11.20	11.27	11.37	12.56	12.69	12.79	12.92	13.00	13.20	Common Shs Outst'g ^C	14.00											
--	--	--	--	17.8	26.9	24.5	25.7	26.3	31.2	30.3	24.6	21.9	20.7	23.9	24.4	24.4	24.4	Avg Ann'l P/E Ratio	22.5											
--	--	--	--	.91	1.47	1.40	1.36	1.40	1.68	1.61	1.48	1.46	1.32	1.50	1.55	1.55	1.55	Relative P/E Ratio	1.50											
--	--	--	--	4.4%	3.3%	3.2%	3.1%	2.9%	2.5%	2.8%	3.5%	3.6%	3.5%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	3.1%	Avg Ann'l Div'd Yield	3.2%											
CAPITAL STRUCTURE as of 3/31/13				20.9	22.5	26.8	28.7	31.4	32.8	37.0	39.0	40.6	41.4	44.0	44.0	46.0	46.0	Revenues (\$mill)	50.0											
Total Debt \$85.0 mill. Due in 5 Yrs \$19.5 mill.				4.4	4.8	5.8	6.1	6.4	6.4	7.5	8.9	9.1	9.3	10.2	11.3	11.3	11.3	Net Profit (\$mill)	12.6											
LT Debt \$84.9 mill. LT Interest \$5.2 mill.				34.8%	36.7%	36.7%	34.4%	36.5%	36.1%	37.9%	38.5%	35.3%	37.6%	36.0%	36.0%	36.0%	36.0%	Income Tax Rate	36.0%											
(Total interest coverage: 2.9x)				--	--	--	7.2%	3.6%	10.1%	--	1.2%	1.1%	1.1%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	1.0%	AFUDC % to Net Profit	1.0%											
Pension Assets 12/12 \$22.7 mill.				43.4%	42.5%	44.1%	48.3%	46.5%	54.5%	45.7%	48.3%	47.1%	46.0%	45.0%	45.0%	45.0%	45.0%	Long-Term Debt Ratio	43.0%											
Oblig. \$34.7 mill.				56.6%	57.5%	55.9%	51.7%	53.5%	45.5%	54.3%	51.7%	52.9%	54.0%	55.0%	55.0%	55.0%	55.0%	Common Equity Ratio	57.0%											
Pfd Stock None				69.0	83.6	90.3	126.5	125.7	153.4	160.1	176.4	180.2	184.8	190	197	197	197	Total Capital (\$mill)	220											
Common Stock 12,932,111 shs.				116.5	140.0	155.3	174.4	191.6	211.4	222.0	228.4	233.0	240.3	245	250	250	250	Net Plant (\$mill)	265											
as of 5/8/13				8.5%	7.6%	8.4%	6.2%	6.7%	5.7%	6.2%	6.5%	6.4%	6.4%	6.5%	7.0%	7.0%	7.0%	Return on Total Cap'l	7.0%											
MARKET CAP: \$250 million (Small Cap)				11.4%	10.0%	11.6%	9.3%	9.5%	9.2%	8.6%	9.8%	9.5%	9.3%	9.5%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	Return on Shr. Equity	10.0%											
CURRENT POSITION (SMALL)				11.4%	10.0%	11.6%	9.3%	9.5%	9.2%	8.6%	9.8%	9.5%	9.3%	9.5%	10.0%	10.0%	10.0%	Return on Com Equity	10.0%											
2011				2.6%	2.1%	3.0%	2.2%	1.7%	1.4%	1.9%	2.7%	2.5%	2.4%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	3.0%	Retained to Com Eq	3.0%											
2012				77%	79%	74%	77%	82%	85%	78%	72%	73%	74%	71%	67%	67%	67%	All Div'ds to Net Prof	72%											
2013/13				4.0	4.0	4.6	BUSINESS: The York Water Company is the oldest investor-owned regulated water utility in the United States. It has operated continuously since 1816. As of December 31, 2012, the company's average daily availability was 35.0 million gallons and its service territory had an estimated population of 189,000. Has more than 63,000 customers. Residential customers accounted for 63% of 2012 revenues; commercial and industrial (29%); other (8%). It also provides sewer billing services. Incorporated: PA. York had 103 full-time employees at 12/31/12. President/CEO: Jeffrey R. Hines. Officers/directors own 1.2% of the common stock (3/13 proxy). Address: 130 East Market Street York, Pennsylvania 17401. Telephone: (717) 845-3601. Internet: www.yorkwater.com.																							
Accounts Receivable				6.0	6.4	5.6																								
Other				1.4	1.2	1.5																								
Current Assets				11.4	11.6	11.7																								
Accts Payable				1.1	1.1	.9																								
Debt Due				1.1	1.1	.1																								
Other				4.1	4.3	4.9																								
Current Liab.				5.3	5.5	5.9																								
Fix. Chg. Cov.				160%	156%	154%																								
ANNUAL RATES of change (per sh)				Past 10 Yrs.	Past 5 Yrs.	Past Est'd '10-'12 to '16-'18																								
Revenues				4.5%	3.5%	2.0%																								
"Cash Flow"				6.5%	6.5%	4.0%																								
Earnings				5.5%	4.5%	4.0%																								
Dividends				1.5%	3.0%	3.5%																								
Book Value				7.0%	6.0%	2.5%																								
Cal-endar				Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year																						
2010				9.0	9.7	10.5	9.8	39.0																						
2011				9.6	10.5	10.5	10.0	40.6																						
2012				9.6	10.4	11.0	10.4	41.4																						
2013				10.1	11.0	11.7	11.2	44.0																						
2014				10.5	11.5	12.2	11.8	46.0																						
Cal-endar				Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year																						
2010				.15	.18	.21	.17	.71																						
2011				.17	.19	.19	.16	.71																						
2012				.15	.17	.22	.18	.72																						
2013				.17	.19	.21	.21	.78																						
2014				.19	.21	.23	.22	.85																						
Cal-endar				Mar.31	Jun.30	Sep.30	Dec.31	Full Year																						
2009				.126	.126	.126	.126	.504																						
2010				.128	.128	.128	.128	.512																						
2011				.131	.131	.131	.131	.524																						
2012				.134	.134	.134	.134	.535																						
2013				.138	.138	.138																								

We are initiating coverage of The York Water Company this week in *The Value Line Investment Survey*. It is a regulated water utility that purifies and distributes drinking water to more than 63,000 customers in Pennsylvania. The company was founded in 1816. The equity has performed well of late. Over the past three months, the stock price has advanced about 8%. In comparison, the S&P 500 Index is up approximately 4% over the same time frame. In our view, the outperformance stemmed from some investors seeking more stable stocks during the recent period of increased volatility on Wall Street. On that note, shares of York Water are now trading near their 52-week high. York stock now seems richly valued. The equity was recently trading at more than 25 times our 2013 share-earnings estimate, which is higher than its historical average, as well as the multiple we project to the 2016-2018 time frame. All told, at this time, we see little reason to take a position here. According to our proprietary Ranking System for Timeliness, York shares will underperform the broader mar-

ket return over the next six to 12 months. In addition, looking long term, the issue is already trading well within our projected Target Price Range for 2016-2018. We also estimate that the dividend payout will only increase at a modest annual pace. The company's near- and long-term prospects aren't compelling, though it does have an important rate case pending. In order to recoup capital investments that stemmed from maintenance outlays, York submitted a request to the Pennsylvania Utility Commission for an increase in water rates of \$7.1 million per year. We think that York will be successful, at least partly so, in getting the hike approved, which will help revenues and profits. Furthermore, and most important, water is one of the most essentials part of life. Water providers, therefore, are almost as critical, and demand for water ought to continue to grow along with the population. However, in order to keep the water flowing, York will have to invest heavily in improving its infrastructure, which will hamper profits. All told, we project only modest annual share-net gains.

Jan Gendler July 19, 2013



MIDDLESEX WATER				NDQ-MSEX	RECENT PRICE	20.68	P/E RATIO	20.7	(Trailing: 20.9 Median: 22.0)	RELATIVE P/E RATIO	1.18	DYD	3.7%	VALUE LINE		
TIMELINESS	2	Raised 6/7/13	High: 20.0	21.2	21.8	23.5	20.5	20.2	19.8	17.9	19.3	19.4	19.6	20.9	Target Price	Range
SAFETY	2	New 10/21/11	Low: 13.7	15.8	16.7	17.1	16.5	16.9	12.0	11.6	14.7	16.5	17.5	18.6	2016	2017
TECHNICAL	3	Raised 6/29/12	LEGENDS													2018
BETA	.70	(1.00 = Market)	1.20 x Dividends p.sh. divided by Interest Rate													64
2016-18 PROJECTIONS			 Relative Price Strength												48
Ann'l Total Return				3-for 2 split 1/02												40
Price				4-for 3 split 11/03												32
Gain				Options: No												24
Ann'l Total Return				Shaded areas indicate recessions												20
High																16
Low																12
Insider Decisions																8
A S O N D J F M A																6
to Buy																
Options																
to Sell																
Institutional Decisions																
3Q2012 4Q2012 1Q2013																
to Buy																
to Sell																
Hld's %																
67.13 66.96 65.79																
Percent shares traded																
12																
8																
4																

(A) Diluted earnings. May not sum due to	May, Aug., and November = Div'd reinvestment	\$0.58 a share.
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rounding. Next earnings report due early Au-

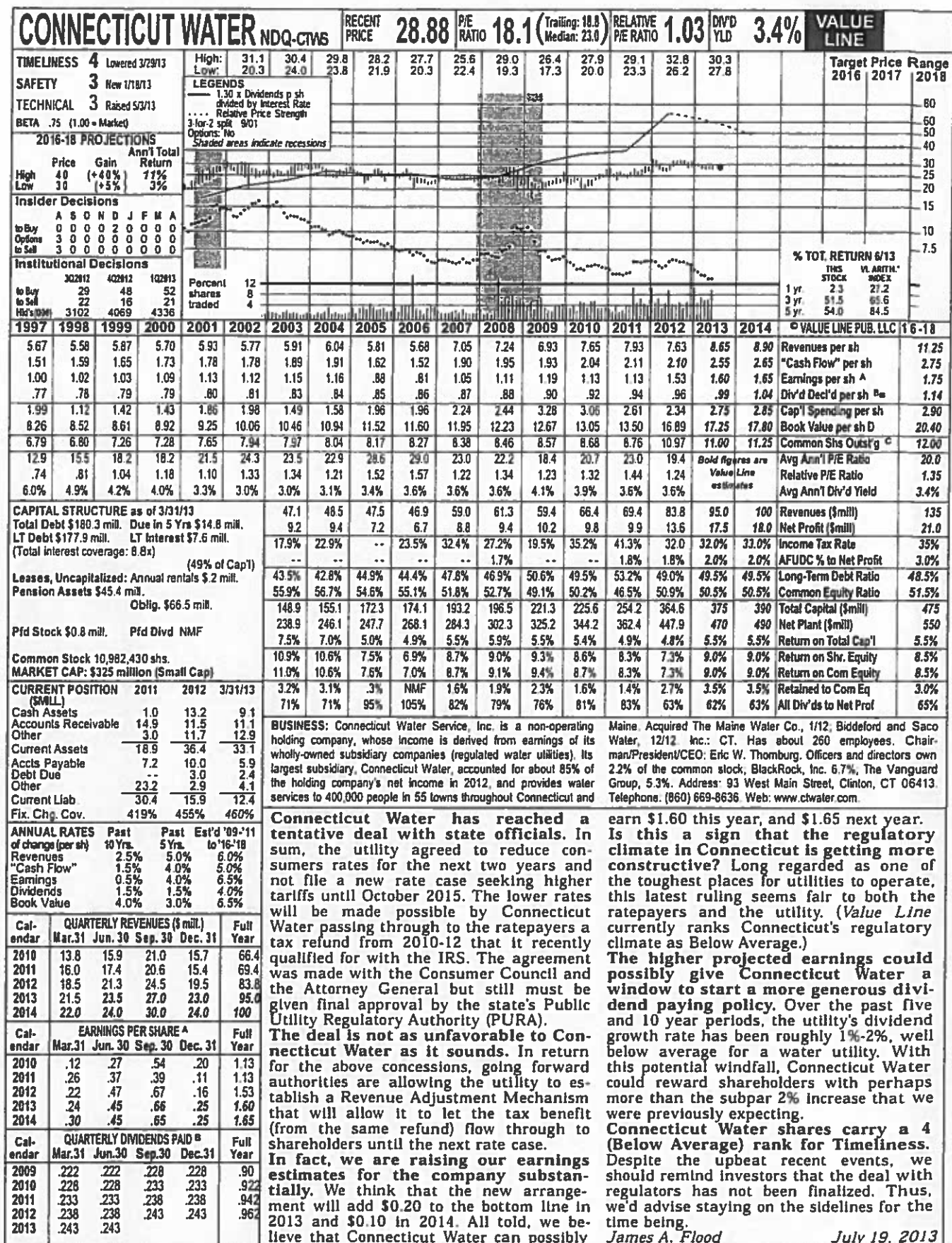
(B) Dividends historically paid in mid-Feb.

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Company's Financial Strength	B++
Stock's Price Stability	95
Price Growth Persistence	30
Earnings Predictability	80

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(A) Diluted earnings. Next earnings report due mid-August.

(B) Dividends historically paid in mid-March, June, September, and December. • Div'd rein-

vestment plan available.

(C) In millions, adjusted for split.

(D) Includes intangibles. In '12: \$31.7 million/\$2.89 a share.

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Company's Financial Strength

Stock's Price Stability

Price Growth Persistence

Earnings Predictability

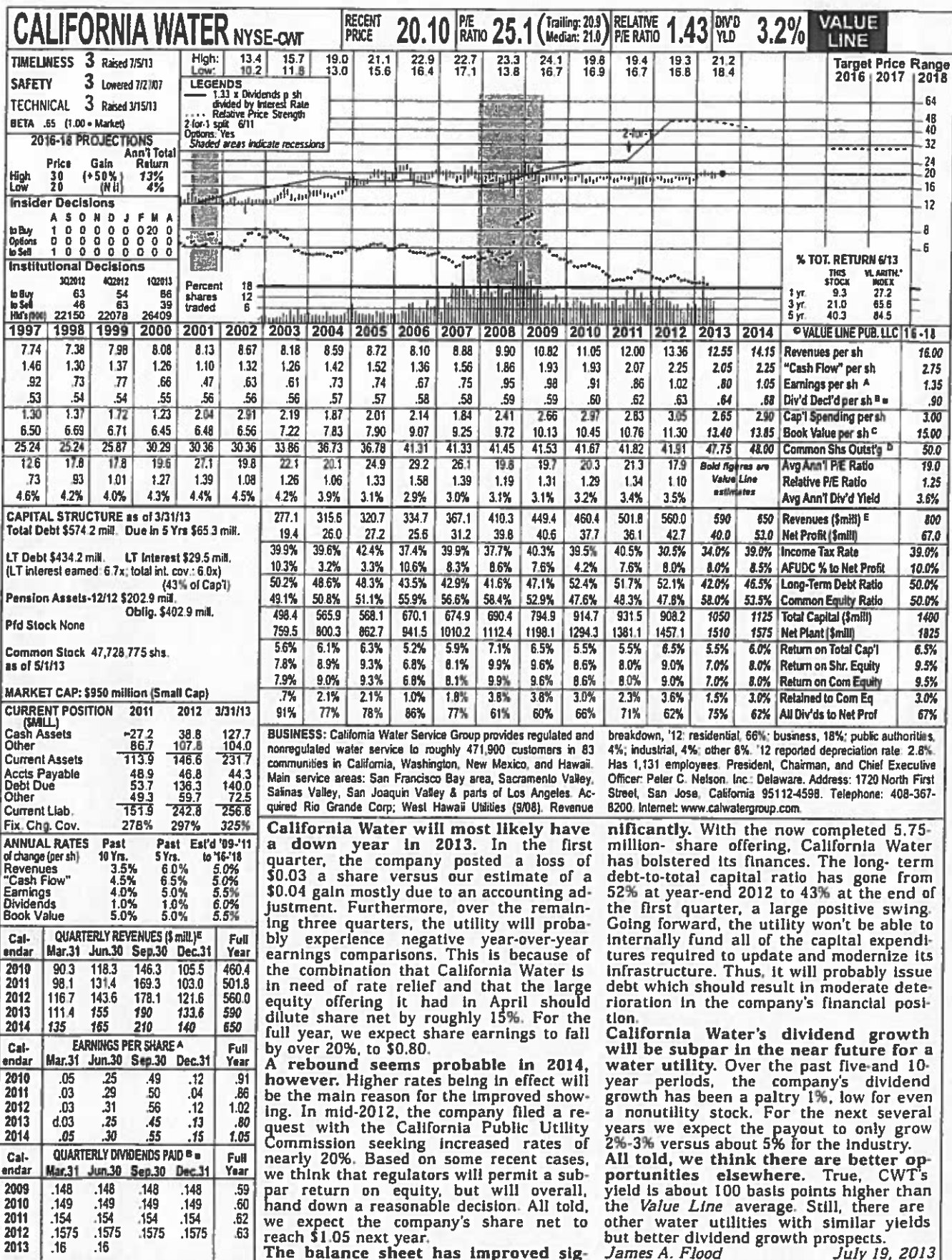
B+

90

35

85

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[illegible]

January 30, 2004

WATER UTILITY INDUSTRY

1421

The Water Utility Industry came under significant pressure in 2003. The majority of the companies covered in the next few pages experienced earnings declines last year, as unfavorable weather conditions resulted in weak demand for water throughout the United States.

Infrastructure costs are expected to continue to rise. As a result, further consolidation appears to be inevitable. Water utility stocks are ranked to lag the market over the next 12 months. However, conservative investors may find the risk-adjusted, total-return potential of these issues attractive.

Dampened Results

Most of the Water companies in our *Survey* were hampered by unfavorable weather conditions in 2003. *American States Water Co.* and *California Water Service Group* both most likely suffered year-over-year earnings declines because of the cool, wet-weather conditions. *Aqua America*, formerly Philadelphia Suburban Corp., however, was probably able to eke out a modest gain last year, despite the sluggish demand. (Investors should note that full-year results for each of the companies covered in this industry were not available as of the date of this issue's publication.) Although weather conditions are nearly impossible to predict, we expect more normal weather to help the Water Utility Industry rebound in 2004.

Increasingly Strict Regulations

In order to stay in compliance with the plethora of state and local regulations put in place to ensure the health levels of drinking water, the Water Utility Industry continues to face stricter purification standards. Amended in 1996, the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) of 1974 authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to work with state and local governments to periodically test for impurities in drinking water and to regulate the levels of contaminants that are acceptable per a specified amount of water. These standards take into account the health effects of chemicals, measurement capabilities, and technical feasibility. One of the most significant contaminants that the industry screens for is arsenic, a naturally occurring substance. These laws and regulations are likely to continue to grow more stringent as the threat of bioterrorism against our water pipelines has already prompted officials to tighten regu-

INDUSTRY TIMELINESS: 90 (of 97)

lation requirements.

Rising Infrastructure Costs

Water companies are also feeling the pressure to maintain and even to upgrade aging facilities. Indeed, many water/wastewater systems that are presently in use were built over 100 years ago and are outdated. The costs associated with replacing these systems continue to grow and, according to the EPA, are expected to venture into the hundreds of billions of dollars over the next 20 years. Given the astronomical expenses, it appears that long-term relief from the federal government is needed. Nevertheless, for now, state and local funding woes will probably leave the water companies to cover most of the expenses.

Rapid Consolidation

The rising costs associated with water purification and facility upgrades are straining many of the smaller companies in the water industry that do not have sufficient cash flow and liquidity to foot the bill for the costly improvements. Therefore, the industry has seen massive consolidation in recent years, as the smaller operations have been forced to sell to larger suitors with significantly greater capital resources. The larger utilities are benefiting from economies of scale, as well as enhanced geographic diversity. In turn, the companies are becoming less susceptible to state or region-specific problems and/or state requirements. *Aqua America*, which has been acquisition-friendly over the past few years, is on the cusp of buying Heater Utilities, which would likely increase its customer base fivefold in North Carolina.

Investment Advice

Growth-minded investors ought to look elsewhere. The water company stocks in this review are not timely and offer little capital-gains appeal out to 2006-2008. However, attractive dividend yields may appeal to income-minded individuals. As always is the case, though, potential investors are advised to carefully review individual reports before making any new commitments to these issues.

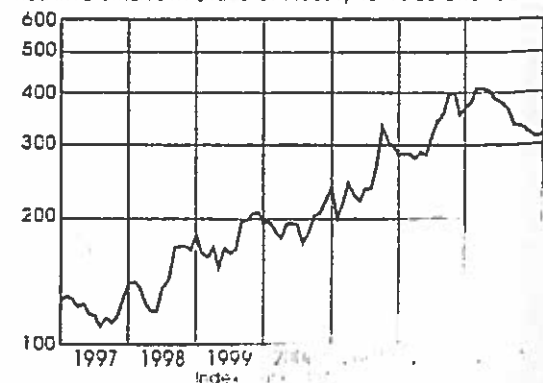
Andre J. Costanza

Composite Statistics: Water Utility Industry

1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	06-08
637.2	704.3	751.8	734.4	846	945	1235
72.4	80.9	85.4	109.6	126	130	190
40.0%	41.2%	40.2%	38.5%	41.5%	41.5%	41.5%
..	5%	..
51.1%	50.3%	50.4%	53.9%	53.0%	51.5%	51.0%
48.3%	49.3%	47.2%	45.5%	46.5%	48.5%	45.0%
1444.7	1681.0	1845.7	1973.6	2365	2545	3055
2100.3	2342.5	2522.3	2751.1	3190	3370	4000
7.4%	7.0%	6.8%	7.2%	6.5%	7.0%	7.5%
11.5%	10.7%	10.6%	11.2%	9.3%	10.5%	12.0%
11.5%	10.5%	10.7%	11.2%	9.3%	10.5%	12.0%
3.9%	3.8%	3.3%	3.9%	3.0%	4.0%	5.5%
62%	57%	52%	65%	73%	65%	54%
19.5	16.6	22.6	21.5	24.8	..	13.5
1.11	1.21	1.16	1.17	1.42	..	.90
3.5%	3.3%	3.1%	3.1%	2.2	..	2.0%

Water Utility

RELATIVE STRENGTH (Ratio of Industry to Value Line Comp.)



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UNITED UTILITY COMPANIES, INC.

Docket #2013-199-WS

Consumer Price Index - Urban Consumers

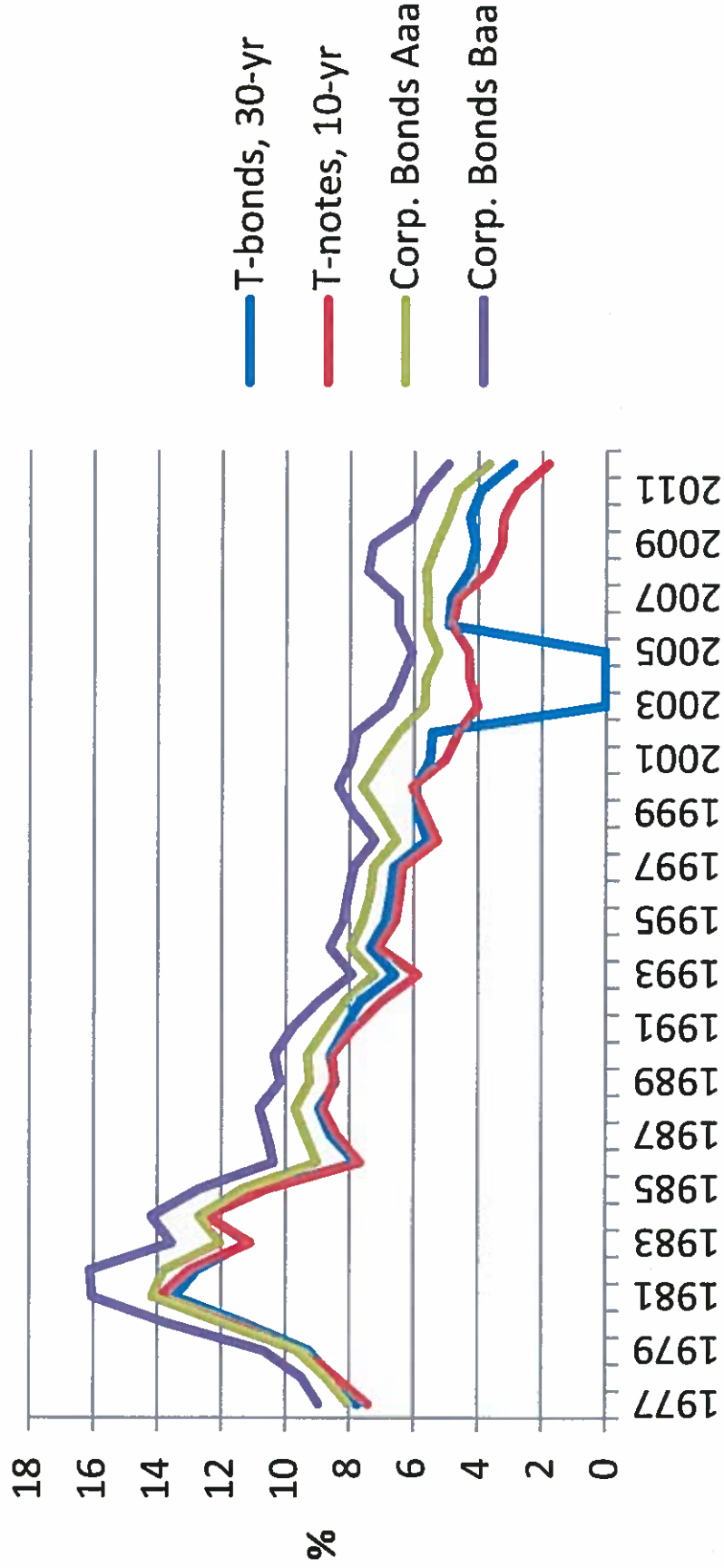
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PAGE 1 OF 1

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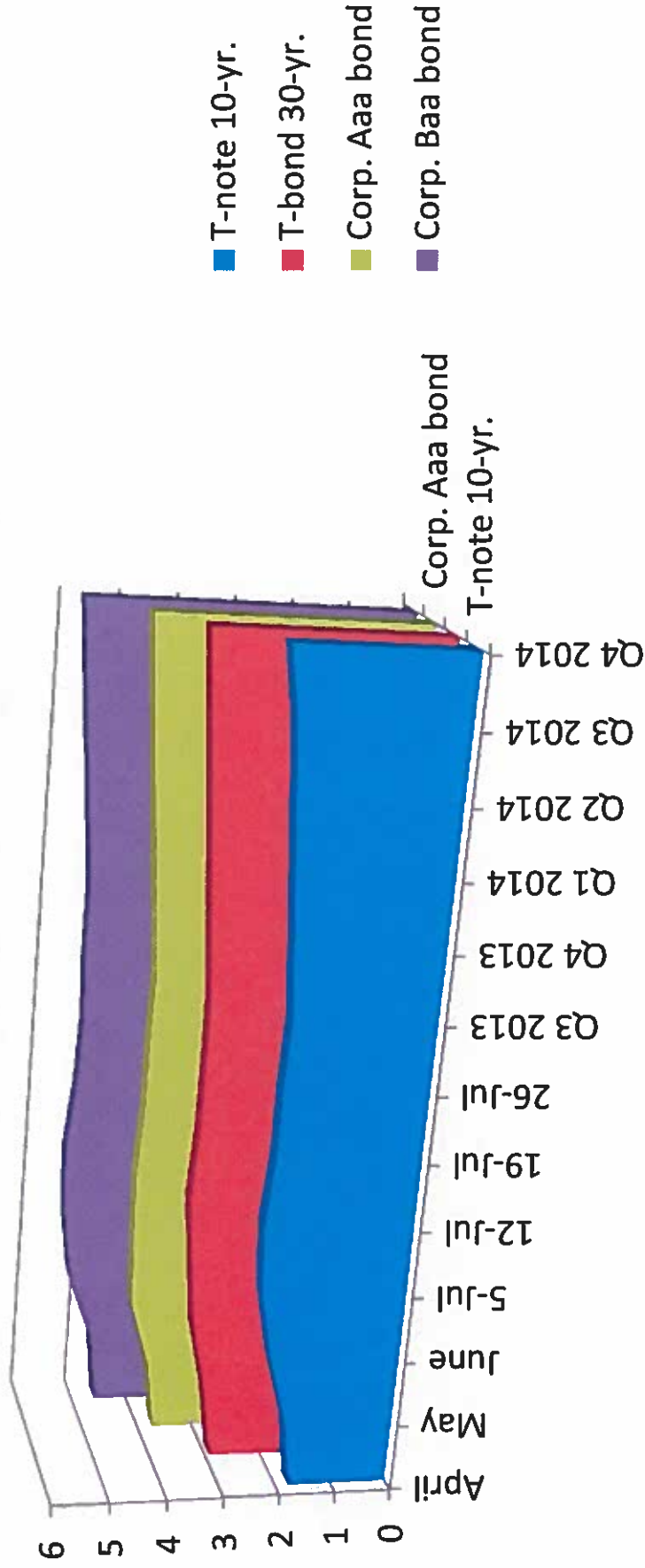
Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	Annual % Δ
1995	150.3	150.9	151.4	151.9	152.2	152.5	152.5	152.9	153.2	153.7	153.6	153.5	152.4	
1996	154.4	154.9	155.7	156.3	156.6	156.7	157.0	157.3	157.8	158.3	158.6	158.6	156.9	2.95%
1997	159.1	159.6	160.0	160.2	160.1	160.3	160.5	160.8	161.2	161.6	161.5	161.3	160.5	2.29%
1998	161.6	161.9	162.2	162.5	162.8	163.0	163.2	163.4	163.6	164.0	164.0	163.9	163.0	1.56%
1999	164.3	164.5	165.0	166.2	166.2	166.2	166.7	167.1	167.9	168.2	168.3	168.3	166.6	2.21%
2000	168.8	169.8	171.2	171.3	171.5	172.4	172.8	172.8	173.7	174.0	174.1	174.0	172.2	3.36%
2001	175.1	175.8	176.2	176.9	177.7	178.0	177.5	177.5	178.3	177.7	177.4	176.7	177.1	2.85%
2002	177.1	177.8	178.8	179.8	179.8	179.9	180.1	180.7	181.0	181.3	181.3	180.9	179.9	1.58%
2003	181.7	183.1	184.2	183.8	183.5	183.7	183.9	184.6	185.2	185.0	184.5	184.3	184.0	2.28%
2004	185.2	186.2	187.4	188.0	189.1	189.7	189.4	189.5	189.9	190.9	191.0	190.3	188.9	2.66%
2005	190.7	191.8	193.3	194.6	194.4	194.5	195.4	196.4	198.8	199.2	197.6	196.8	195.3	3.39%
2006	198.3	198.7	199.8	201.5	202.5	202.9	203.5	203.9	202.9	201.8	201.5	201.8	201.6	3.23%
2007	202.4	203.5	205.4	206.7	207.9	208.4	208.3	207.9	208.5	210.2	208.9	210.0	207.3	2.85%
2008	211.1	211.7	213.5	214.8	216.6	218.8	220.0	219.1	218.8	216.6	212.4	210.2	215.3	3.84%
2009	211.1	212.2	212.7	213.2	213.9	215.7	215.4	215.8	216.0	216.2	216.3	215.9	214.5	-0.36%
2010	216.7	216.7	217.6	218.0	218.2	218.0	218.0	218.3	218.4	218.7	218.8	219.2	218.1	1.64%
2011	220.2	221.3	223.5	224.9	226.0	225.7	225.9	226.5	226.9	226.4	226.2	225.7	224.9	3.16%
2012	226.7	227.7	229.4	230.1	229.8	229.5	229.1	230.4	231.4	231.3	230.2	229.6	229.6	2.07%
2013	230.3	232.2	232.8	232.5	232.9	233.5	233.6							
	1.59%	1.98%	1.47%	1.06%	1.36%	1.75%	1.96%	Month over Same Month Last Year						

Source: U.S. Dept. of Labor, Bureau of Labor Statistics; except last line and last column are calculated

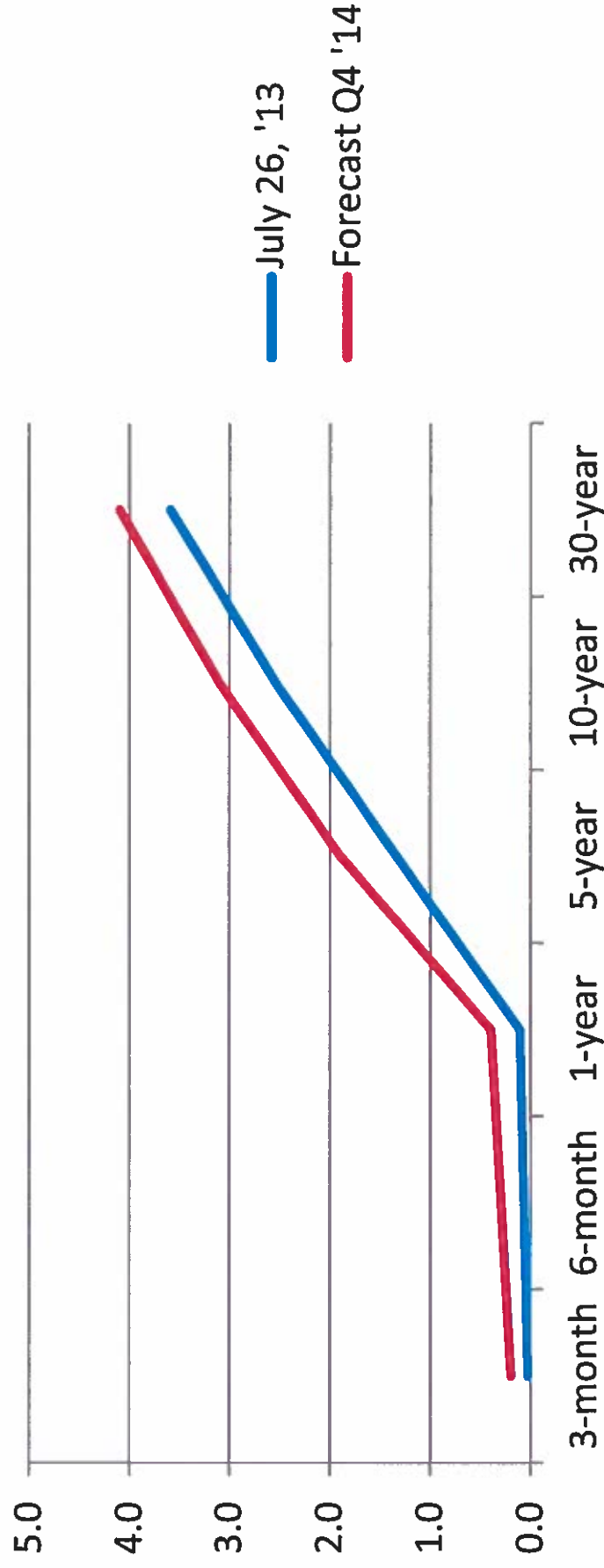
Bond Rates over Time

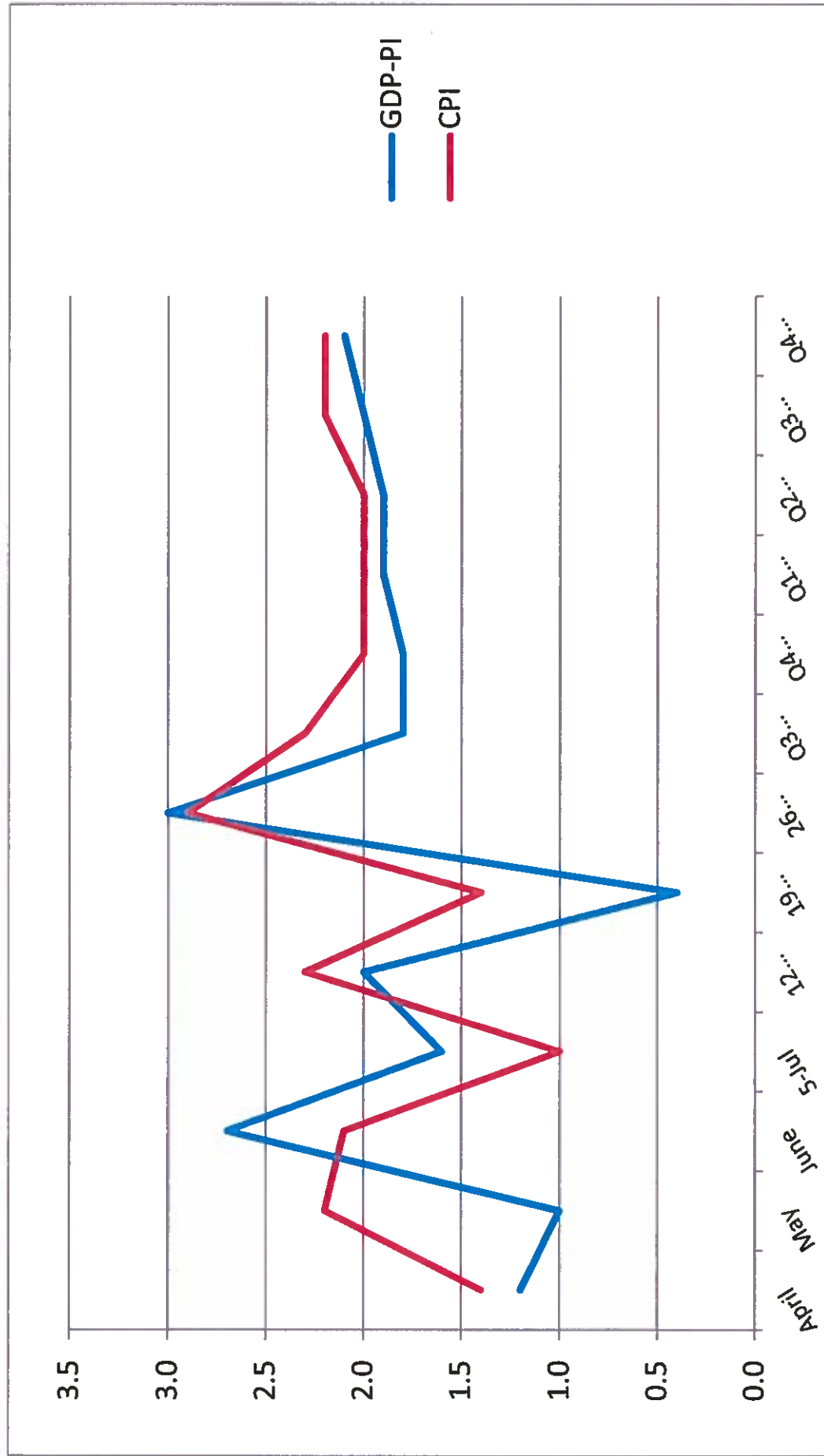


Recent and Forecasted Bond Rates



U.S. Treasuries, Yield Curve, Recent & Forecasted





Company	Ticker	Beta	Beta 10-Year	Book Value Growth 10- Year	Proj Book Value Growth Rate	EPS Growth 10-Year	Total Return 2004	Total Return 2008	Total Return 2012
Crown Holdings	CCK	0.85	0.84	-25.00	85.50	33.50	51.66	-25.15	9.62
Sturm, Ruger & Co.	RGR	0.80	0.56	0.50	25.50	14.00	-16.25	-27.90	39.51
Ross Stores	ROST	0.80	0.71	14.50	22.00	18.50	9.79	17.63	14.61
Alexion Pharmac.	ALXN	0.75	0.66	11.00	22.00		48.15	-3.53	31.11
Sherwin-Williams	SHW	0.65	0.68	5.50	21.50	10.00	30.70	5.58	74.49
ITT Educational	ESI	0.70	0.72	12.50	21.00	29.00	1.24	11.39	-69.57
Boston Beer 'A'	SAM	0.75	0.73	12.50	20.50	22.00	17.26	-24.57	23.85
Dean Foods	DF	0.70	0.74	-10.50	20.50	-4.00	0.24	-30.51	47.41
Monster Beverage	MNST	0.70	0.54	40.50	20.00	54.00			
Int'l Business Mach.	IBM	0.85	0.74	3.50	20.00	12.00	7.19	-20.76	5.94
Varian Medical Sys.	VAR	0.85	0.86	15.50	19.50	20.50	25.15	-32.82	4.63
Coca-Cola Bottling	COKE	0.70	0.48	16.00	18.50	11.00	10.01	-20.21	15.35
Casey's Gen'l Stores	CASY	0.70	0.64	6.00	18.50	14.00	3.75	-22.25	4.28
Cerner Corp.	CERN	0.85	0.92	17.50	17.50	22.50			
Brown-Forman 'B'	BF/B	0.70	0.68	7.00	17.50	10.50	6.09	-11.29	19.27
PetSmart, Inc.	PETM	0.80	0.77	12.00	17.00	27.00	49.86	-21.15	34.89
Cyberonics	CYBX	0.80	0.67	10.00	16.00		-35.25	25.91	56.81
Ecolab Inc.	ECL	0.80	0.65	16.50	15.50	12.50	29.72	-30.51	25.96
Advance Auto Parts	AAP	0.85	0.63	16.00	15.50	25.00	-45.10	-10.82	4.25
TJX Companies	TJX	0.80	0.59	14.00	15.50	14.00	14.77	-27.42	32.96
Copart, Inc.	CPRT	0.85	0.90	10.00	15.50	16.50	58.55	-36.10	23.2
Silgan Holdings	SLGN	0.70	0.55	43.00	15.00	14.50	44.83	-6.69	8.72
Edwards Lifesciences	EW	0.70	0.52	11.50	15.00	26.00	37.17	19.48	27.54
Monro Muffler Brake	MNRO	0.70	0.53	10.00	14.50	16.00	26.75	32.72	-8.76
Microsoft Corp.	MSFT	0.85	0.94	4.00	14.50	11.00			
3M Company	MMM	0.85	0.89	11.50	14.00	10.50	-1.75	-29.80	16.67
Int'l Flavors & Frag.	IFF	0.80	0.88	8.50	14.00	8.50	24.85	-36.67	29.72
Papa John's Int'l	PZZA	0.80	0.63	8.50	14.00	7.50	3.18	-18.81	45.78
CSG Systems Int'l	CSGS	0.80	0.88	6.00	14.00	-0.50	49.72	18.68	23.59
Gilead Sciences	GILD	0.70	0.54	32.50	13.50		20.08	11.15	79.45
Computer Prog. & Sys.	CPSI	0.75	0.52	12.50	13.50	10.00	17.89	25.27	1.92
Kroger Co.	KR	0.60	0.51	6.00	13.50	3.50	-5.24	0.13	9.71

Company	Ticker	Beta	Beta 10-Year	Book Value Growth 10- Year	Proj Book Value Growth Rate	EPS Growth 10-Year	Total Return 2004	Total Return 2008	Total Return 2012
DaVita Inc.	DVA	0.65	0.54	26.50	13.00	22.00	52.04	-12.03	45.8
Sanderson Farms	SAFM	0.60	0.54	14.00	13.00	0.50	62.56	3.79	-3.7
Alliant Techsystems	ATK	0.80	0.86	13.00	13.00	12.50	13.19	-24.61	10.15
ResMed Inc.	RMD	0.80	0.66	26.50	12.50	20.50	23.01	-28.65	65.1
CACI Int'l	CACI	0.85	0.88	17.50	12.50	17.00	40.13	0.72	-1.59
Rollins, Inc.	ROL	0.85	0.54	15.00	12.50	19.50	17.90	-4.42	1.15
Laboratory Corp.	LH	0.70	0.61	12.50	12.50	16.50	34.83	-14.72	0.76
Myriad Genetics	MYGN	0.75	0.60	10.50	12.50		75.04	42.74	30.13
Chemed Corp.	CHE	0.80	0.51	8.00	12.50	18.50	46.84	-28.42	35.44
Carriage Services	CSV	0.75	0.93	3.00	12.50	64.50	33.51	-77.16	114.66
Henry (Jack) & Assoc.	JKHY	0.85	0.75	13.00	12.00	11.00			
OSI Systems	OSIS	0.85	0.99	9.00	12.00	19.50	18.22	-47.68	31.28
Aaron's Inc.	AAN	0.85	0.80	14.50	11.50	18.50	83.92	27.57	6.23
O'Reilly Automotive	ORLY	0.70	0.49	14.50	11.50	20.00	16.83	-5.21	11.85
Exxon Mobil Corp.	XOM	0.75	0.59	12.00	11.50	14.00	28.04	-13.14	4.72
Perrigo Co.	PRGO	0.70	0.59	12.00	11.50	22.50	10.77	-7.16	7.25
Total System Svcs.	TSS	0.85	0.95	10.50	11.50	8.00			
Universal Corp.	UVV	0.80	0.98	8.00	11.50	1.00	11.91	-39.48	13.14
Heartland Express	HTLD	0.80	0.66	4.50	11.50	6.50			
Amer. Tower 'A'	AMT	0.80	0.64	-4.00	11.50		70.06	-31.17	30.43
Vertex Pharmac.	VRTX	0.85	0.60	-5.00	11.50		2.13	30.78	26.17
United Natural Foods	UNFI	0.75	0.79	17.00	11.00	17.50	73.21	-43.82	33.94
Medtronic, Inc.	MDT	0.85	0.80	12.50	11.00	12.00			
Actavis, Inc.	ACT	0.70	0.48	6.00	11.00	12.50	-28.67	-2.10	42.53
Celgene Corp.	CELG	0.80	0.59	29.50	10.50		18.18	19.63	16.08
McKesson Corp.	MCK	0.75	0.74	8.50	10.50	14.50	-1.41	-40.37	25.59
RLI Corp.	RLI	0.80	0.47	8.00	10.50	12.00	12.44	9.62	-2.68
Lockheed Martin	LMT	0.85	0.87	-11.00	10.50	16.50	9.97	-18.58	19.5
Comtech Telecom.	CMTL	0.70	0.64	20.50	10.00	24.00	30.64	-15.16	-6.91
Schein (Henry)	HSIC	0.80	0.74	13.00	10.00	14.00	3.05	-40.24	24.82
Johnson & Johnson	JNJ	0.65	0.53	11.50	10.00	10.00	25.14	-7.77	10.83
Synopsys, Inc.	SNPS	0.80	0.81	10.50	10.00	6.50	-42.26	-28.58	17.06

Company	Ticker	Beta	Beta 10-Year	Book Value Growth 10- Year	Proj Book Value Growth Rate	EPS Growth 10-Year	Total Return 2004	Total Return 2008	Total Return 2012
Sysco Corp.	SYV	0.70	0.74	9.50	10.00	8.50			
Baxter Int'l Inc.	BAX	0.70	0.54	8.50	10.00	9.50	15.22	-6.24	38.42
ConAgra Foods	CAG	0.65	0.69	4.50	10.00	2.00	16.06	-28.06	14.94
Amgen	AMGN	0.65	0.53	12.50	9.50	16.50			
Becton, Dickinson	BDX	0.65	0.68	10.00	9.50	12.50	39.74	-16.92	7.23
Aon plc	AON	0.70	0.70	7.00	9.50	5.50	2.17	-2.87	20.29
IAC/InterActiveCorp	IACI	0.75	0.77	-7.00	9.50		-18.60	-35.92	12.6
Knight Transportation	KNX	0.85	0.71	12.00	9.00	11.00	45.15	9.82	-1.75
Owens & Minor	OMI	0.75	0.47	12.00	9.00	10.00			
Harris Teeter Super.	HTSI	0.65	0.78	7.00	9.00	7.00	23.66	-19.07	-7.03
Genuine Parts	GPC	0.80	0.75	3.50	9.00	5.50	36.90	-15.05	7.24
Stryker Corp.	SYK	0.80	0.97	21.50	8.50	17.50			
Quest Diagnostics	DGX	0.75	0.57	13.00	8.50	15.50	31.42	-1.07	1.5
Landauer, Inc.	LDR	0.85	0.79	9.50	8.50	5.00	16.22	46.35	23.7
BMC Software	BMC	0.85	0.75	2.00	8.50	38.50			
Cubist Pharm.	CBST	0.80	0.73	19.00	8.00		-3.03	17.80	6.13
CVS Caremark Corp.	CVS	0.85	0.83	18.00	8.00	13.50	25.66	-27.16	20.3
Berkley (W.R.)	WRB	0.70	0.46	17.00	8.00	29.50	35.85	4.91	10.76
DeVry Inc.	DV	0.70	0.60	16.50	8.00	17.00	-30.92	10.76	-37.55
NIKE, Inc. 'B'	NKE	0.80	0.83	12.50	8.00	14.50			
Waste Connections	WCN	0.70	0.53	12.00	8.00	12.00	36.02	2.17	3.16
J&J Snack Foods	JJSF	0.70	0.76	10.50	8.00	13.50	30.19	16.20	21.06
Automatic Data Proc.	ADP	0.80	0.67	4.50	8.00	5.50	13.46	-9.05	8.52
Raytheon Co.	RTN	0.75	0.72	-1.00	8.00	12.00	32.20	-14.22	23.35
Walgreen Co.	WAG	0.80	0.97	13.00	7.50	11.00	7.29	-34.38	15.31
Navigant Consulting	NCI	0.85	0.76	12.50	7.50	14.00	41.04	16.09	-2.19
WD-40 Co.	WDFC	0.70	0.67	11.50	7.50	5.00	-16.91	-23.07	19.63
West Pharmac. Svcs.	WST	0.80	0.83	10.00	7.50	10.00	50.91	-5.71	46.63
Lilly (Eli)	LLY	0.80	0.70	6.50	7.50	4.50	-17.57	-21.23	24.27
Spartan Stores	SPTN	0.70	0.56	1.00	7.50	1.00	32.80	2.64	-15.38
Shenandoah Telecom.	SHEN	0.85	0.80	10.00	7.00	12.50	18.69	18.53	49.68
AmerisourceBergen	ABC	0.70	0.67	7.50	7.00	15.00	4.72	-19.81	17.95

Company	Ticker	Beta	Beta 10-Year	Book Value Growth 10- Year	Proj Book Value Growth Rate	EPS Growth 10-Year	Total Return 2004	Total Return 2008	Total Return 2012
Cardinal Health	CAH	0.80	0.78	6.50	7.00	3.50			
Healthcare Svcs.	HCSG	0.75	0.58	6.50	7.00	16.50	65.23	-22.13	35.33
Haverty Furniture	HVT	0.85	0.77	2.50	7.00	-11.00	-5.61	5.83	59.12
Costco Wholesale	COST	0.70	0.70	9.50	6.50	9.50	31.15	-23.98	19.92
Village Super Market	VLGEA	0.75	0.54	8.50	6.50	8.50	23.37	21.82	23.41
Marsh & McLennan	MMC	0.80	0.77	2.50	6.50	-2.50	-29.80	-5.54	12.04
Wiley (John) & Sons	JW/A	0.85	0.78	14.00	6.00	11.00	35.04	-15.86	-10.53
ManTech Int'l 'A'	MANT	0.85	0.53	14.00	6.00	14.00	-4.85	23.67	-14.18
Markel Corp.	MKL	0.80	0.61	12.50	6.00		43.58	-39.12	4.52
Smucker (J.M.)	SJM	0.70	0.57	12.50	6.00	12.00	6.11	-5.03	13.14
Coca-Cola	KO	0.60	0.54	12.50	6.00	9.00	-16.12	-24.11	6.51
Greatbatch, Inc.	GB	0.75	0.85	8.50	6.00	13.00	-46.96	32.37	5.16
MAXIMUS Inc.	MMS	0.80	0.81	6.50	6.00	10.00	-20.47	-7.99	53.99
Bristol-Myers Squibb	BMJ	0.70	0.56	6.00	6.00	-1.50	-7.27	-6.05	-3.78
Weis Markets	WMK	0.65	0.68	3.00	6.00	4.00	13.17	-12.88	0.83
FTI Consulting	FCN	0.75	0.56	19.00	5.50	13.50			
Biogen Idec Inc.	BIIB	0.75	0.86	15.50	5.50	24.00			
Chubb Corp.	CB	0.80	0.52	11.00	5.50	19.00	15.43	-4.09	11.28
Teleflex Inc.	TFX	0.80	0.90	9.50	5.50	2.50	9.45	-18.56	18.91
Forrester Research	FORR	0.75	0.87	3.50	5.50	4.50	1.07	0.68	-19.95
ICU Medical	ICUI	0.70	0.55	11.00	5.00	10.00	-20.27	-7.97	35.4
Pfizer, Inc.	PFE	0.75	0.71	14.50	4.50	-1.50	-22.31	-16.85	20.41
Technique Corp.	TECH	0.70	0.70	14.00	4.50	14.50			
Bemis Co.	BMS	0.85	0.72	7.00	4.50	4.00			
McDonald's Corp.	MCD	0.60	0.49	6.50	4.50	14.00	31.48	8.55	-9.27
Endo Health Solns.	ENDP	0.75	0.69	17.00	4.00		8.52	-2.96	-24.04
Forest Labs.	FRX	0.80	0.74	15.50	4.00	10.00			
Snyder's-Lance	LNCE	0.65	0.70	7.50	4.00	2.00	31.99	16.21	10.15
Tootsie Roll Ind.	TR	0.70	0.69	4.50	4.00	-1.50	-0.08	-2.60	16.4
Analogic Corp.	ALOG	0.85	0.78	4.00	4.00	5.00	9.73	-59.37	30.38
Procter & Gamble	PG	0.60	0.50	18.50	3.50	9.00	12.38	-13.77	5.18
Waste Management	WM	0.80	0.61	4.50	3.00	5.50	3.83	4.79	7.64

Company	Ticker	Beta	Beta 10-Year	Book Value Growth 10- Year	Proj Book Value Growth Rate	EPS Growth 10-Year	Total Return 2004	Total Return 2008	Total Return 2012
Washington Post	WPO	0.85	0.98	7.00	2.50	4.50	25.21	-49.91	-0.5
Nash Finch Co.	NAFC	0.70	0.70	5.50	2.50	4.50	72.83	29.69	-24.89
World Wrestling Ent.	WWE	0.80	0.72	-2.00	2.00	-1.00	-6.24	-17.26	-10.35
Merck & Co.	MRK	0.80	0.67	9.50	1.50	2.00			
CenturyLink Inc.	CTL	0.70	0.69	6.50	1.50	1.00	9.57	-29.58	13.22
PetMed Express	PETS	0.75	0.89	43.50	0.50		4.97	45.70	12.95
NutriSystem Inc.	NTRI	0.85	0.93	33.00	-4.00				
Block (H&R)	HRB	0.80	0.73	2.00	-5.00	2.00			
Safeway Inc.	SWY	0.65	0.80	2.00	-39.00	-3.00	-9.90	-29.66	-10.75
	mean	0.761	0.698	10.533	10.164	12.234	17.033	-8.914	16.166
	median	0.75	0.7	10.5	9.5	12	16.06	-10.82	13.22
				10.516	9.832				10.174

137 companies

"<.70	9.8333	6.2667	Stratified results
">.69 & <.80	11.9444	10.0741	
>=.80	9.5662	10.5909	

10.4480	8.9772	9.713
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See Exhibit DHC-7	5	0.56 "<.70	3.4815	Weighted stratified results	9.943
	3	0.33 ">.69 & <.80	3.3580		
	1	0.11 ">=.80	1.1768		

10.5074	8.0163	9.262
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Overall CEM Results

9.603

Press Release

FEDERAL RESERVE press release

Release Date: July 31, 2013

For immediate release

Information received since the Federal Open Market Committee met in June suggests that economic activity expanded at a modest pace during the first half of the year. Labor market conditions have shown further improvement in recent months, on balance, but the unemployment rate remains elevated. Household spending and business fixed investment advanced, and the housing sector has been strengthening, but mortgage rates have risen somewhat and fiscal policy is restraining economic growth. Partly reflecting transitory influences, inflation has been running below the Committee's longer-run objective, but longer-term inflation expectations have remained stable.

Consistent with its statutory mandate, the Committee seeks to foster maximum employment and price stability. The Committee expects that, with appropriate policy accommodation, economic growth will pick up from its recent pace and the unemployment rate will gradually decline toward levels the Committee judges consistent with its dual mandate. The Committee sees the downside risks to the outlook for the economy and the labor market as having diminished since the fall. The Committee recognizes that inflation persistently below its 2 percent objective could pose risks to economic performance, but it anticipates that inflation will move back toward its objective over the medium term.

To support a stronger economic recovery and to help ensure that inflation, over time, is at the rate most consistent with its dual mandate, the Committee decided to continue purchasing additional agency mortgage-backed securities at a pace of \$40 billion per month and longer-term Treasury securities at a pace of \$45 billion per month. The Committee is maintaining its existing policy of reinvesting principal payments from its holdings of agency debt and agency mortgage-backed securities in agency mortgage-backed securities and of rolling over maturing Treasury securities at auction. Taken together, these actions should maintain downward pressure on longer-term interest rates, support mortgage markets, and help to make broader financial conditions more accommodative.

The Committee will closely monitor incoming information on economic and financial developments in coming months. The Committee will continue its purchases of Treasury and agency mortgage-backed securities, and employ its other policy tools as appropriate, until the outlook for the labor market has improved substantially in a context of price stability. The Committee is prepared to increase or reduce the pace of its purchases to maintain appropriate policy accommodation as the outlook for the labor market or inflation changes. In determining the size, pace, and composition of its asset purchases, the Committee will continue to take appropriate account of the likely efficacy and costs of such purchases as well as the extent of progress toward its economic objectives.

To support continued progress toward maximum employment and price stability, the Committee today reaffirmed its view that a highly accommodative stance of monetary policy will remain appropriate for a considerable time after the asset purchase program ends and the economic recovery

strengthens. In particular, the Committee decided to keep the target range for the federal funds rate at 0 to 1/4 percent and currently anticipates that this exceptionally low range for the federal funds rate will be appropriate at least as long as the unemployment rate remains above 6-1/2 percent, inflation between one and two years ahead is projected to be no more than a half percentage point above the Committee's 2 percent longer-run goal, and longer-term inflation expectations continue to be well anchored. In determining how long to maintain a highly accommodative stance of monetary policy, the Committee will also consider other information, including additional measures of labor market conditions, indicators of inflation pressures and inflation expectations, and readings on financial developments. When the Committee decides to begin to remove policy accommodation, it will take a balanced approach consistent with its longer-run goals of maximum employment and inflation of 2 percent.

Voting for the FOMC monetary policy action were: Ben S. Bernanke, Chairman; William C. Dudley, Vice Chairman; James Bullard; Elizabeth A. Duke; Charles L. Evans; Jerome H. Powell; Sarah Bloom Raskin; Eric S. Rosengren; Jeremy C. Stein; Daniel K. Tarullo; and Janet L. Yellen. Voting against the action was Esther L. George, who was concerned that the continued high level of monetary accommodation increased the risks of future economic and financial imbalances and, over time, could cause an increase in long-term inflation expectations.